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OPINION METER
This week's poll:

Are you in favor of holding a weeklong Liberation Day celebration instead of one month?

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Inos: Emergency states remain

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Inos

Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos said yesterday that the governor's executive orders declaring a state of emergency for the NMI Retirement Fund, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. will remain despite opposition voiced by senators and retirees on Wednesday, adding that these emergency declarations are likely to be extended beyond 30 days.

Inos, at the same time, said he's "really surprised" and finds it "ironic" that legal fees associated with the Fund's filing of a Chapter 11 bankruptcy petition reached $1.2 million.

The U.S. bankruptcy court dismissed the petition.

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Retirees reject Fund emergency

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

» Senate, House leaders urged to junk emergency declaration
» Fitial no-show at meeting; Manglona says governor doesn't care for retirees

Active and retired members of the islands' pension program rejected Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's executive order declaring a state of emergency for the NMI Retirement Fund and wants the Legislature to throw it out.

Hundreds of Fund members attended a meeting hosted by Commonwealth Retirees Association chair Larry Cabrera Wednesday night at the American Memorial Park visitor center and majority of them voted against the emergency declaration.

Retirees said their unified position on the issue will serve as a strong voice for legislators to "do the right thing."

The Legislature has 60 days to approve or reject the governor's executive order.

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GUNS & HOSES ➤

Hard Rock Cafe Saipan staff and acting commissioner Ambrosio Ogumoro of the Department of Public Safety present the prizes to the winners of the Guns and Hoses Legendary Burger Eating Contest in celebration of Hard Rock's 41st founding anniversary yesterday. CLARISSA V. DAVID

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ICE: Many prison deficiencies found

» 'Saipan prison must conform to rigorous standards'
» Only 6 ICE detainees remain on Saipan after most were moved elsewhere

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Saipan's $20.9-million adult prison that opened only in 2008 could lose more federal inmates to facilities in Guam, Hawaii, and Los Angeles and could face complaints for not keeping up with revised detention standards to ensure improved medical and mental health services, among other things, officials said.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement confirmed yesterday that they found "several deficiencies" in the

See ICE on Page 4

Saipan casino supporters get more time

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Attorney General Edward Buckingham gave yesterday Saipan casino legalization supporters led by Dr. Jack Angello an opportunity to withdraw their popular initiative petition that has only 497 signatures and submit a late-filed petition no later than 120 days before the Nov. 6 election. Angello said yesterday they're heeding the AG's advice.

"We are thankful for the attorney general for giving us the opportunity to withdraw the petition and late-file it, on or before July 7, so that we could continue to work on this very important petition drive," Angello told *Saipan Tribune* last night.

Angello earlier said they submitted 501 signatures on Thursday. But Buckingham said yesterday the number is 497.

Buckingham said the 497 signatures that Angello's group submitted "falls well below" the constitutionally required number which is supposed to be 20 per-

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Local

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Wilshire Associates assures continued work with Fund

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The NMI Retirement Fund's investment consultant assured members and retirees yesterday that it will continue working with the Fund in spite of the ongoing crisis at the pension agency.

In a statement to *Saipan Tribune* yesterday, Wilshire Associates spokesman Kim Shepherd said the company will continue to assist the Fund.

"Wilshire Associates is encouraged to learn that unprecedented attention is given to the Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund during this time of funding crisis. Our firm will continue to assist the Fund as it addresses the challenges before it," she said in an email.

Wilshire Associates was hired by the Fund in October 2010 to replace former investment adviser Merrill Lynch.

The Fund is currently under a state of emergency. That led to the dissolution of its board of trustees and the transfer of the program's function to the Department of Finance.

According to press secretary Angel A. Demapan, the Fitial administration is now developing its organizational plan for the pension agency.

"At this point in time, it is still premature to discuss what changes, be it personnel, professional services or operational, will be effectuated," he said when asked about any changes in the Fund's operation.

Demapan said the administration's transition plan is being finalized.

The Legislature has 60 days to either approve or reject the governor's emergency declaration before it takes into effect.

On Wednesday, active and retired Fund members expressed concern about the capability of the Finance Department to run the program effectively. They are worried that the Fund's assets may be diverted to other purposes rather than pensions and benefits.

Also, members are worried of a possible write-off of the $320 million the central government owes the agency, representing unremmitted employer contributions.

Commonwealth Retirees Association chair Larry Cabrera disclosed that a meeting recently took place between Fund administrator Richard Villagomez and Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, where the former was assured that it would be "business-as-usual" for the Fund after the transfer and that the pension plan's assets will be kept untouched.

The Fund portfolio was estimated at a little over $250 million two months ago. The pension program is expected to last up to two years only due to its unfunded liabilities.

The Fund has 6,000 active and retired members.

NMC board retains leadership

The Northern Marianas College Board of Regents retained the current leadership setup after an election of officers yesterday.

Juan T. Lizama was re-elected by acclamation as board chairman for another year.

Elaine Hocog-Orilla retained her vice chair post while Frank Rabauliman remains treasurer.

In their individual messages yesterday, members emphasized the importance of "continuity in leadership" at the institution, especially in this time of accreditation challenges. NMC remains on continued show-cause status after it failed to resolve all deficiencies previously cited by the accreditation commission. Its fate will be know after the January 2013 commission assembly.

According to regent William Torres, yesterday's election was historic as this was the first time the board retained the leadership setup.

The board also welcomed interim Associated Students of NMC president Keolester Buenpacifico, who replaced Lawrence Camacho, whose term recently expired. ***(Moneth G. Deposa)***

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$10K cash bail for suspect in baseball bat attack

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo retained yesterday the $10,000 cash bail initially set for a Customs officer who allegedly pointed a gun at a man and attacked him with a baseball bat on Wednesday in Garapan.

Govendo said he finds the charges very serious considering that the suspect, Abraham Falig, is a Customs officer and that a government-issued handgun and a baseball bat were allegedly used in the attack.

The Office of Public Defender was appointed as counsel for Falig. Assistant attorney general Shelli Neal appeared for the government.

Preliminary hearing will be on June 22, while arraignment will be on July 2.

Police detective Catherine B. Pangelinan stated in her report that two police officers responded Tuesday at 7:04pm to a reported disturbance at the New Chang Ming Market in Garapan.

The alleged victim, Jack Sachuo, told the responding officers at the scene that Abraham, also known as Bong, assaulted him. Sachuo sustained bruises and scratches on his left elbow and shoulder.

According to Sachuo, he was sitting in front of New Chang Ming Market with friends when Abraham and a female passenger arrived aboard a car. Abraham got down from the car and allegedly hit Sachuo with the baseball bat but it flew off.

The Customs officer then allegedly pulled a handgun and pointed it at Sachuo. Sachuo dared Abraham to shoot him. Abraham then allegedly picked up the baseball bat and hit him on the left elbow and left shoulder. The baseball bat broke, prompting Sachuo to tackle Abraham to the ground.

Sachuo then managed to run to the New Chang Ming Market where he asked the cashier to call 911. When police officers arrived, Abraham and his companion had already left. Sacho was brought to the Commonwealth Health Center.

On Wednesday night, detectives arrested Abraham for assault with a dangerous weapon and disturbing the peace. The detectives seized the suspect's Custom 9mm Glock pistol at his residence in Tanapag. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Drug trafficker gets 2 years in prison

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A woman facing "ice" trafficking charges in the Superior Court whose previous plea agreement was rejected by Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho pleaded guilty yesterday under a revised plea deal and was sentenced to two years in prison. She was given credit for time served.

Camacho accepted Wei Lu's plea agreement as there is no suspended sentence; fines are paid immediately; defendant has no prior criminal conviction or arrest; and that she will be subjected to immediate deportation after being released from prison.

Lu pleaded guilty to illegal possession of a controlled substance. Assistant public defender Douglas Hartig served as her counsel. Assistant attorney general Darren Robinson prosecuted the case.

Before entering a plea agreement with Lu, the Office of the Attorney General dismissed the charges of trafficking of controlled substance and conspiracy to trafficking of controlled substance.

Camacho ordered the two-year prison term to be served day for day without possibility of parole, early release, work or weekend release, or other similar programs. "No part of this sentence shall be suspended," the judge stressed.

Camacho required Lu to pay a $2,000 fine, payable immediately with monies seized by the government when Lu was arrested on Jan. 12, 2012. Lu was also ordered to pay a $100 court fee.

Last May 23, Lu fainted in court shortly after Camacho rejected a proposed plea agreement that she and a co-defendant entered with the government. Lu was transported by medics to the Commonwealth Health Center.

The original proposed plea agreement recommended a one-year sentence with credit for time served and a fine of $1,000. Camacho found the deal to be too lenient.

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HARD ROCK CAFÉ MARKS 41ST ANNIVERSARY

Fire fighters take prize in Guns & Hoses competition

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

For the third consecutive time, the Department of Public Safety's Fire Division reigned supreme yesterday at the Guns & Hoses Legendary Burger eating contest in celebration of Hard Rock Café's 41st founding anniversary.

Five firefighters got stuffed as they wolfed down Hard Rock Café Saipan's spicy signature Chamorro Burgers without sauce and sidings, defending their title against a team of five police officers who put up a good fight in an event witnessed and cheered on by other DPS staff and officials led by acting commissioner Ambrosio Ogumoro.

The winning team was composed of firefighter 1 Joaquin Camacho, firefighter 2 Allan Farley, firefighter 3 Francis Manglona, firefighter 1 Carlos Sablan, and firefighter 2 Paul Sasamoto. They received certificates and a Hard Rock shirt as prizes.

This year's event featured a burger eating relay contest, wherein one team member had to consume one burger before the next member can take their turn to eat their share of a plateful of Chamorro burgers.

Camacho, who was the first in line, said he felt the pressure to eat faster. "It was my first time to join and it was fun."

Sablan, who devoured two burgers, said he would "definitely join again any time. Free meals, why not?"

Sasamoto said the trick to their victory was "to drink water to make it easier to swallow."

The challengers from the Police Division team were Israel Deleon, Josef Guerrero, Rodolfo Hermesila, Dave Rabauliman, and Rudy Sablan.

Hard Rock Saipan restaurant manager Mikka T. Valencia said they decided on the relay concept to make the contest more fun and exciting. In the past, policemen and firefighters competed in pairs. "As we celebrate the 41st anniversary of Hard Rock, we're glad that we're able to give honor to our men in badges," Valencia told *Saipan Tribune*.

The anniversary celebration culminated with the cutting of the ceremonial cake last night.

ICE

From Page 1

Saipan facility's detainee healthcare system related to "staffing, availability of services and recordkeeping" that resulted in the transfer off-island of all but six ICE inmates on Saipan.

There used to be as many as 20 ICE detainees at the facility last month.

ICE is a component agency of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the lead agency in the federal takeover of CNMI immigration.

Lori K. Haley, public affairs officer/spokeswoman for ICE-Western Region, said ICE is committed to ensuring the welfare of all those in its custody and to providing the highest quality medical care available.

"All facilities under contract to house ICE detainees must conform to the agency's rigorous detention standards and undergo regular comprehensive inspections," she told *Saipan Tribune.*

ICE revised its detention standards to improve medical and mental health services, increase access to legal services and religious opportunities, improve communication with detainees with limited English proficiency, improve the process for reporting, and responding to complaints, and increase recreation and visitation.

These new standards, known as Performance-Based National Detention Standards 2011, represent an important step in detention reform.

PBNDS 2011 reflects ICE's ongoing effort to tailor the conditions of immigration detention to its unique purpose while maintaining a safe and secure detention environment for staff and detainees.

Rep. Tony Sablan (R-Saipan), a former member of the CNMI Prison Task Force and a former CNMI immigration director, said yesterday it is in the CNMI's best interest to comply with federal detention standards to avoid complaints and lawsuits from local and federal inmates, as well as avoid losing more federal inmates to facilities off-island.

"ICE may also have made that decision to transfer their inmates to avoid potential lawsuits. Detention standards are there, regardless of the inmates—whether local or federal detainees," he said.

Just the same, Sablan said it would be better if the U.S. Bureau of Prisons could also make its own "neutral assessment" of the Saipan prison rather than having ICE—as a "client" of the facility—doing all the assessment.

Haley confirmed that the recent assessments of the Saipan detention facility were performed by representatives from ICE's Enforcement and Removal Operations and Health Service Corps.

She said, "ICE has informed CNMI officials about the findings and outlined the changes that need to be made to bring the facility into compliance with ICE's standards." ICE found "several deficiencies in the facility's detainee healthcare system related to staffing, availability of services, and record keeping."

"When these deficiencies came to light last month, ICE transferred several aliens out of the Saipan detention facility. At this time, six ICE detainees remain in custody there," Haley said.

ICE's current detention contract with the CNMI to use the Saipan prison extends through May 2013 and provides funding for 20 beds at a rate of $89 a day, Haley said.

"ICE values its relationship with its partners at the CNMI Department of Corrections and appreciates the department's continued willingness to work with us to safeguard the welfare of ICE's detainees," she added.

Another CNMI official privy to the issue said ICE's standards seem like "too much" and do not seem to take into account the CNMI's current realities, including financial constraint to station a nurse at the Saipan prison, for example. The official said it seems those who are in prison are required to have better access to healthcare than those outside of prison.

CASINO

From Page 1

cent or 2,590 of the 12,948 registered voters on Saipan, the senatorial district affected by the petition.

The petitioners seek to legalize casino gaming on Saipan through popular initiative. The Office of the Attorney General has to certify that the number of signatures meet the requirements so that it can be placed on the Nov. 6 ballot for voter ratification.

In his letter to Angello, Buckingham clarified the certification process for initiatives under chapter 5-50 of title 5 of the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code, and to give him an opportunity to withdraw their petition.

The AG said the regulations contemplate two types of initiative petitions that propose a local law:

(1) timely petitions that are filed no later than 150 days prior to the election, and

(2) late-filed petitions that are submitted after the timely deadline and no later than 120 days before the election.

Buckingham said that timely petitions and late-filed petitions are distinct and governed by different regulations.

"Accordingly, you may not supplement a timely petition with a late-filed petition to meet the constitutional signature requirements. You may, however, submit a separate late-filed petition at least 120 days prior to the election for consideration in accordance with section 5-50-245," the AG said.

As it stands now, Angello's group's petition would be considered timely as they submitted it on June 7, 2012—152 days before the upcoming election, Buckingham said.

Section 5-50-240 provides that, within 30 days of receiving a timely petition proposing a local law, the attorney general shall give the party who submitted the petition notice of how many valid signatures were submitted in support of the petition.

If a sufficient number of signatures were submitted as specified in the NMI Constitution, but the AG was unable to certify a sufficient number of signatures to meet the constitutional requirements, the party who submitted the petition shall have an additional 10 days to file additional signatures in support of the petition.

If an insufficient number of signatures were submitted, the party circulating the petition shall not receive any additional time to obtain signatures, the AG said.

Because there were only 497 signatures in the petition submitted instead of at least 2,590, under section 5-50-240, the petition would not be granted additional time to obtain signatures because an insufficient number of signatures was submitted.

"Rather than formally certifying that you have not met the constitutional requirements, as a courtesy, I am giving you an opportunity to withdraw your petition. You would then still be able to submit a late-filed petition no later than 120 days before the next election," Buckingham told Angello.

Angello said they would be more aggressive in collecting signatures. He said having a Saipan casino industry will help grow the CNMI economy, help restore 80 hours and help prolong the Retirement Fund's lifespan.

RETIREES

From Page 1

In almost three hours of meeting, attendees pleaded with both Senate President Paul A. Manglona (Ind-Rota) and acting House Speaker Felicidad Ogumoro (Cov-Saipan) to fight the executive order, saying this may cause further chaos and uncertainties in the already troubled pension program.

Prior to voting, Manglona told members: "If you tell us [senators] that we need to reject it, we trust in your judgment and we will ask the House to also reject the EO. If that's the input from you retirees, I commit the Senate to support retirees."

CRA had invited Fitial and legislative leaders to the forum but Fitial did not show up.

"It's sad to say, but I think the governor simply don't care about the Fund," said Manglona, adding that it is the Fitial administration's wish to transition the Fund to the Social Security Administration.

Acting House Speaker Ogumoro came to Fitial's defense, citing the many occasions Fitial spent discussing the Fund's situation and how it can be saved.

Ogumoro, prior to voting, asked members to first study the ramifications if the executive order is supported or rejected.

In her presentation, Ogumoro tackled past and existing legislations that impacted the Fund. Among the solutions she offered was the casino bill that she believes will bring new revenue to the government.

Unsatisfied

Members who abstained from voting against the EO said that rejecting it could mean a return to the status quo, which could worsen the situation because the board of trustees and management's performance in past years has been poor.

One retiree, Agnes McPhetres, believes the Fund's trustees failed the members. However, she is also concerned about putting the Fund under the governor's watch. She mentioned the possibility of the Legislature appointing an interim commission to manage the Fund.

McPhetres, together with other retirees, also complained about the Fund's expenditures in hiring attorneys and consultants, which they described as excessive and all being paid out of their pensions.

Dave Sablan, for his part, pointed out the government assets that the Fund could take in exchange for the millions of dollars that the central government owes the program. He also described as unconstitutional the law that suspended the government's employer contribution to the Fund.

A 2009 court judgment had determined that the government owed the Fund $231 million. The amount has not grown to $320 million.

Another retiree, Calixto Reyes, blamed three issues that killed the pension program: the breakdown of communications on Capital Hill, lack of leadership, and the no sense of direction among all parties concerned.

TRO to stop EO

CRA chair Cabrera tossed the idea of challenging the governor's EO and the possibility of finding a lawyer that will represent the retirees' voice.

The issue of "receivership" was also tackled, but no concrete decision was made.

Manglona pleaded with members to first wait for actions to be taken by the Legislature on the latest EO.

Retirees, a bit calmer than in previous meetings, were one in saying that they were ignored and taken for granted by both the Fund and the government in deciding what to do with their "money," alluding to the previous board's filing for bankruptcy that was later dismissed and the governor's emergency declaration, both of which came as a surprise to them.

INOS

From Page 1

Inos said the Fitial administration would have to review these reported expenses at a time when the pension agency is in financial crisis.

"It's ironic that we're trying to reduce the bleeding and the Fund and these folks, they filed a lawsuit so that they can do something to benefit the Fund but at the same time they're pushed to submit a bill to the tune of $1.2 million, to take that much money out of the Fund—the very Fund that they're trying to protect. Kind of ironic," Inos told reporters in an interview at yesterday's signing of a proclamation at CHC declaring June 17-23 CNMI Nurses Week.

As for the Senate leadership and the Commonwealth Retirees Association's opposition to the CUC emergency declaration, Inos said the administration respects everyone's opinion and that the Senate has the prerogative to reject the order.

Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) said the reasons that Gov. Benigno R. Fitial had cited in placing CUC under emergency have either been addressed or could be addressed without placing the agency under his wing.

But Inos said there's more good than harm in having CUC, as well as the Fund and CHC, under the administration at this time.

The governor's emergency declaration could only be rejected if both the House and Senate agree to reject it.

Inos said he hopes the Senate will meet with the administration on the issue before deciding on the matter. He also called on everyone concerned to read carefully the emergency declarations for CUC and the Fund.

"Definitely there will be [extension]. If the nature of the emergency will continue beyond the 30-day period and that the issues were not addressed, then definitely it will have to be extended for another 30 days," he added.

Inos, who is leading the administration's efforts to solve the Fund crisis, said the EO will protect the Fund from further financial harm, including costly legal fees.

"What that does is essentially puts a stay on essentially anything that's happening by way of operating expense and so forth. No new contracts and stuff like that until the governor has the chance to review that," Inos said, adding that the governor will issue a directive requiring that any disbursement out of the Fund would have to receive prior concurrence by the Finance secretary.

Inos assured that pensions won't be cut. He, however, said the Fund's plan to go after 120 retirees who were overpaid some $5 million in pension as a result of the Fund's own misapplication of statute or miscalculation is on hold and is currently under advisement.

Inos said these same retirees will possibly start receiving the corrected amount of pension starting June 15.

Joeten Foundation awards $4K scholarships to 4 students

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

The Joeten Charitable Foundation yesterday awarded $4,000 worth of scholarships to four CNMI high school graduates.

The 2012 Joeten Charitable Foundation Scholarship recipients are James Masao Aono Deleon Guerrero of Mount Carmel School, Deveney Manglona Dela Cruz of Marianas High School, Lallane Casugay Guiao of Saipan Southern High School, and Christopher John Cabrera Santos of Kagman High School.

Foundation board trustees Clarence Tenorio, Priscilla Tenorio, Joeten marketing manager and buyer Frannie Demapan representing foundation president Frances T. Demapan, and Joeten Susupe market manager Darlene Macaranas presented each student a check worth $1,000.

The presentation ceremony was held at the Joeten Susupe office conference room yesterday.

The Joeten Charitable Foundation has been awarding scholarships to deserving high school graduates on Saipan since its inception in 1994.

James Deleon Guerrero, who will pursue his studies at Chaminade University in Honolulu, Hawaii, was unable to make it to the presentation ceremony. He was represented by his father, Jesus Deleon Guerrero, who read a prepared statement on behalf of his son.

The daughter of Hilario and Regina Guiao, Lallane Guiao will major in Education in Wesleyan University in Middetown, Connecticut. Guiao said the Joeten scholarship would subsidize her travel expenses in the fall.

Deveney Dela Cruz, the daughter of Francisco and Lisa Dela Cruz, will major in education/communication at Saint Martin's University in Washington. She described the scholarship as a "blessing."

Christopher John Santos is set to leave for Grossmont College, a community college in San Diego, California where he will be taking up biology.

The students were accompanied by several family members during yesterday's brief awarding ceremony.

Joeten Charitable Foundation board trustees flank the 2012 scholarship recipients following the presentation ceremony held at the Joeten Susupe office yesterday. From left to right, Joeten marketing manager and buyer Frannie T. Demapan, trustee Priscilla Tenorio, Deveney M. Dela Cruz, Christopher John C. Santos, Lalle C. Guiao, Jesus Deleon Guerrero representing his son James, trustee Clarence Tenorio, and Joeten Susupe market manager Darlene Macaranas.
CLARISSA V. DAVID

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Over 50 regional leaders coming to Saipan for APIL meet

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Between 51 and 55 leaders from Micronesia and other jurisdictions will be coming to Saipan for the June 20 to 23 Association of Pacific Island Legislatures' 31st General Assembly to foster regional cooperation on a host of issues such as tourism, airlines, environmental protection, and economic development.

Overall, the four-day event is expected to draw some 200 participants, the bulk of which will be from the CNMI led by the 29 members of the 17th Legislature and Gov. Benigno R. Fitial.

The visiting dignitaries will include lawmakers and businessmen from Guam, Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia's Pohnpei, Chuuk, Kosrae and Yap, the Marshall Islands, Kiribati, and Hawaii.

Reyes

Ana Teregeyo, chairperson of the APIL event's hospitality subcommittee, said that 51 off-island dignitaries have confirmed attendance as of yesterday but this could go up to 55 shortly.

Senate floor leader Pete Reyes (R-Saipan) said during yesterday's meeting of the planning committee that U.S. Department of the Interior's Nik Pula confirmed attendance at the APIL meet. Teregeyo said that Pula will be the keynote speaker.

House Vice Speaker Felicidad Ogumoro (Cov-Saipan), Sen. Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota), House minority leader Joseph Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan), Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Cov-Saipan), and Rep. Tony Sablan (R-Saipan) were among those helping in the planning of the event, along with representatives from the Legislative Bureau and the Department of Commerce.

The opening ceremonies will be on June 20 in the House of Representatives chamber on Capital Hill, Teregeyo said.

This year's theme is, "Economic Development: Strengthening Local Economies throughout the Blue Continent."

Last year's APIL General Assembly was held in Palau, where the CNMI sent 12 individuals—two senators, six House members, and four LB staffers.

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DOJ insists: FICA laws apply to the CNMI

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The United States has jurisdiction to assess and collect Social Security and Medicare taxes—collectively known as FICA taxes—in the CNMI, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office.

U.S. Department of Justice's tax division trial attorney Andy R. Camacho asserted that Congress intended to apply both the employer and employee portions of FICA laws to the CNMI.

The statute is clear that FICA laws apply to the CNMI as they apply to Guam, said Camacho in the U.S. motion to dismiss the lawsuit filed by Hong Kong Entertainment (Overseas) Investment Ltd. and a defunct garment manufacturer Rifu Apparel Corp. against the U.S. government to recover allegedly wrongfully paid FICA taxes.

Hong Kong Entertainment and Rifu Apparel, argue, among other things, that the Covenant cannot apply FICA taxes to the CNMI as they apply to Guam because the United States sets Guam's immigration policies and contract workers enter Guam under U.S. visas. The CNMI, however, used to set its own immigration policies, and contract workers entered the CNMI under CNMI visas, they said.

In a footnote to his pleadings, Camacho said that nonresident aliens are also eligible to receive the U.S. Social Security benefits they have earned if their countries of citizenship either have no generally applicable social insurance system, or have a generally applicable social insurance system that pays benefit to U.S. citizens who have earned them.

But even if they were not eligible, Camacho said, Congress has the authority to subject them to FICA taxes.

Camacho, however, pointed out that persons who pay FICA or SECA taxes accrue no property interest in Social Security benefits.

He said Congress is justified in treating nonresident alien workers unlike residents for purposes of Social Security taxes and benefits.

Camacho said it is the Covenant and the Internal Revenue Code that made plaintiffs liable for FICA taxes.

Eleven other defunct garment factories as well as the former Concorde Garment Manufacturing Corp. and numerous Chinese nationals formerly employed by Concorde and its affiliated companies also filed last year separate but similar lawsuits against the U.S. government.

The plaintiffs alleged that they erroneously withheld taxes from the wages of their then employees and paid them to the U.S. government.

Kilili's new bill to make CNMI eligible for grants

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP) introduced legislation last week making the CNMI, along with American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico eligible for the Nonprofit Capacity Building Grant Program.

Sablan's H.R. 5897, cosponsored by the delegates of the four other U.S. territories, has been referred to the U.S. House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

The Nonprofit Capacity Building Grant Program is part of the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act. It funds development training for small and mid-sized nonprofits on best practices, financial planning, grant writing, and compliance with applicable tax laws.

"A strong nonprofit sector in the NMI is crucial to meeting many of the public service needs of our community. My bill, H.R. 5897, was cosponsored by all territorial delegates, and if enacted, will help build the capabilities of our local nonprofits," Sablan said.

The bill amends the National and Community Service Act of 1990 to make the U.S. territories eligible for nonprofit capacity building grants under that Act.

In other news, the governors of Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, and U.S. Virgin Islands have sent a letter urging the federal government to allow the territories to participate in the Race to the Top competitive grant program, according to a report in the *Virgin Islands Daily News*.

Race to the Top was started as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act as a way to award education funds based on the unique and successful reforms individual districts implement. It was implemented in 2009 with $4.35 billion to disburse, and since then it has gotten a number of additional appropriations to continue the program.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

3 beach sites red-flagged

The Division of Environment Quality has red-flagged the Garapan Fishing Dock and the Saipan World Resort beach on Saipan and the Mobil storm drainage on Rota and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

DEQ said that samples collected from these locations had excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water. Water samples were taken from 38 locations on Saipan this week. A similar number of water samples were taken on Rota this week. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. ***(DEQ)***

Crime Stoppers seeks help

Crime Stoppers is seeking the public's help for information on a burglary and theft incident that occurred at Grace Christian Academy on Navy Hill. On Monday, June 4 at about 8am, the female victim parked her 2001 silver Toyota Rav4 by the GCA basketball court to attend an award ceremony. At about 9:45am, the victim returned to discover her front windshield broken. There was a rock found on the back seat of her car. The victim's handbag was stolen containing about $250, credit cars, and identification.

DPS and Crime Stoppers need your help. Contact the Crime Stoppers hotline at 234-7272 should you want to remain anonymous or use its website at www.nmicrimestoppers.net. Crime Stoppers pays up to $1,000 for any information leading to an arrest. It pays to call. ***(PR)***

MHS Class of '83 meeting today

This is to invite members of the MHS Class of 1983 to our general meeting today, June 15, 2012, Friday, at the Garapan Beach Road pavilion. You may contact Tonnei Camacho at 483-9665 for more details. ***(PR)***

Autism Society meeting today

The Autism Society of the CNMI will be holding a special meeting today, June 15, at 5:50pm at the conference room of the Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems, Inc. in Gualo Rai. Information regarding the group and future meetings will be available at this meeting. All families and friends of individuals with autism and autism-related spectrum disorders are invited to attend. For more information, contact Frank Cabrera at 287-9552 or 888-5749 (frankdcabrera@hotmail.com). ***(PR)***

CCA board meeting on June 19

The Commonwealth Cancer Association's board of directors will be holding its monthly meeting on Tuesday, June 19, 2012, at 8:30am in the CCA conference room in Gualo Rai. The agenda includes reports from the president, steering committees, program manager, 2012 CNCSWD, and program/project updates. All board meetings are open to the public. For more information, contact the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050 or email at cca@ccamarianas.org. ***(PR)***

CNMI women execs on Marianas Agupa

Tomorrow, June 16, 2012, Marianas Agupa will feature Sen. Jovita M. Taiamanao, president of the CNMI Women's Association, and project director Florine M. Hofschneider to talk about their subgrant from the U.S. Department of Human Services and their project goals and objectives. The show is from 9am to 11am on Magic 100.3 FM. Listeners on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota and those listening via streaming are encouraged to call in and ask questions during the show (direct to studio at 234-5929 or use instant messaging via the Marianas Agupa Facebook account. The Chamorro radio talk show program is hosted by Glenn H. Manglona. Simultaneous Internet streaming via www.magic100radio.com will be available. ***(PR)***

Free Friday films at the memorial park

The American Memorial Park presents free family friendly films twice a day every Friday (2pm and 6pm) in the Visitor Center auditorium. The film premiere on June 22 will be Brother Bear. Future films include Up, Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who, Ratatouille, Robots, and Charlotte's Web. ***(PR)***

To: All MHS Class of '82

Our 30th Reunion is to be held at Laolao Bay Golf & Resort (Pool side) on Saturday, June 16, 2012 from 6:30pm to 10:30pm

Our Mass is set for the same date at St. Jude Church, at 7am.

Please come and make this a memorable reunion.

For more information please contact:
James Lizama - 788-4026 and Fernando Camacho - 285-1202

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All meals are served with choice of Rice, Baked or Mashed Potato, Soup or Salad, Fruits of the day and Bottomless Iced Tea.

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Dinner will be served at the Bar
5:00pm - 10:00pm

Happy Father's Day!
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Marvin Deleon Guerrero

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Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Jun. 15, 1999

BPL chairmanship vacant

Tomas B. Aldan, chairman of the Board of Public Lands, has left the policy-making body recently after his appointment has expired. In an interview over the phone, Aldan, who was named to the post by former Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio, said his two-year term ended June 4. There is no word yet from the office of Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio whether Aldan will be reappointed or another person will be selected for the post.

Legislature backs advisory council for regional airlines

Legislators threw support yesterday behind the creation of a regional advisory council aimed to bridge various island governments with airlines servicing Micronesia, saying this may be a step in the right direction to deal with growing problem of air transportation in the region. The Association of Pacific Island Legislatures has agreed in principle to set up the body which was proposed by Continental Micronesia in its meeting on Guam last week, but concrete actions on the proposal are expected to begin in the next few months. House majority floor leader Ana S. Teregeyo said this council is a "working-type" group that will pursue issues affecting airline service to the region, including cut back on the number of flights from key destinations.

Jun. 15, 2000

PSS foresees growth in SAT9 results

Education Commissioner Rita H. Inos has expressed optimism that students will gain higher scores in this year's Stanford Achievement Test -- 9th Edition, an assessment that selected grade levels in the Public School System took before the end of the school year. Dr. Inos said she is hopeful that SAT9, to be released in the succeeding summer months, will show some trends in growth as PSS did all it can during the previous academic year to strengthen areas which needed utmost attention. Specific areas for improvement were determined as a result of last year's evaluation.

PSS secures $400K for advanced placement courses

As Marianas High School students gear up for the nationwide advanced placement courses to be offered in May 2001, the Public School System said it is now financially equipped to support students preparing for the assessment as early as this summer. Advanced placement courses are post secondary preparatory subjects for incoming college students that will allow high schoolers to be exposed to the rigorous course outlines in the undergraduate level. "This would allow the high academic achievers at MHS to participate in specialized classes and take these tests that would earn them college credits," said PSS Federal Programs Officer Bill Matson.

Jun. 15, 2001

EMO calms fears on possible effects of S. Pacific disasters

The Emergency Management Office yesterday said that there is no indication of another earthquake following the recent disaster that rocked another Pacific island. "There's no information of any pending alerts or warning," EMO Director Gregorio Guerrero said in a phone interview. Guerrero also assured that there will be no tsunami in the Northern Marianas. At least 200 people were displaced in a recent earthquake that destroyed two villages in Papua New Guinea. The quake measured 6.4 on the Richter Scale. The Geophysical Observatory in Port Moresby reported the earthquake had been shallow, about 10-kilometer underground, and had started at about 7pm. A number of aftershocks followed, including a strong tremor after 1am Wednesday last week.

Federal court: CNMI a US territory

The US District Court yesterday denied a motion that sought to dismiss charges against suspected illegal gambling operator Qian Wu on grounds that the CNMI is not a territory of the United States. District Judge Alex R. Munson referred to the Covenant as basis for the ruling that junked the argument of the defense panel. In a decision, Munson upheld Asst. US Attorney David Wood's contention that asserted the US' jurisdiction to enforce a federal illegal gambling statute which Wu had allegedly violated. The defense previously filed a motion to dismiss the charges on ground that defendant Wu's alleged crime was conducted outside the gambling statute's definition of the term "State." Defense lawyer Joseph A. Arriola cited that the definition of State as any State of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and any territory or possession of the United States.

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Lotus Rice 50lbs. **$25.99**

Saipan Ice Water 500ml **$5.99** CASE

Nongshin Bowl Noodle **$7.99** CASE LIMIT

Ichiban **$10.49** CASE

Chicken Leg Quarter **$19.99** 22lbs **$26.99** 33lbs LIMIT

Whole Chicken 30lbs **$37.99** LIMIT

Pork Spareribs 20lbs **$22.99** LIMIT

Babyribs 10lbs **$22.99** LIMIT

Vega Shrimps **$5.79** LB. LIMIT

King Chef Vegetable Oil 5gal **$31.99**

Mega Butane Gas **$22.99** CASE

GROCERIES

Ox & Palm Corned Beef **$2.99** 11.5 OZ.

Spam All Kinds **$2.39** EA

Black Label Luncheon **$1.79** EA..

Libby's Vienna Sausage **59¢** 5 OZ.

Ace of Diamond Tuna **$1.29** 7 OZ.

Beach Cliff Sardines **99¢**

Century Tuna **89¢** 7 OZ.

Waioka Tuna **89¢**

Armour Treet Luncheon Loaf **$1.69**

Hormel Chili with Beans **$1.69** 15 OZ.

Hormel Chili No Beans **$1.79** 15 OZ.

Kikkoman Soy Sauce **$3.99** 1.6 L.

Morton Salt **89¢** 450 gm

Vlasic Sliced Dill Pickle **$6.49** 1 GAL.

Dinty Moore Beef Stew **$1.69** 15 OZ.

Dinty Moore Meatball Stew **$1.69** 15 OZ.

Hormel Mary Kitchen Corned Beef Hash **$1.99** 6.5 OZ.

Campbells Chicken Noodle **89¢** 10 OZ.

Del Monte Spaghetti Sauce (all kinds) **$1.39** 26.5oz.

Del Monte Whole Corn **99¢** 15 OZ.

Kellogg's Tri-pak 58 oz. **$13.99**

General Mills Tri-pak **$8.99**

Argo Corn Starch **99¢** 1 LB.

Gold Medal Flour **$3.25** 37.02 OZ.

Duncan Hines Cake Mix **$1.99**

Country Lime Lemonade **$7.99**

Tang Orange **$7.99** 22 QTS.

Kool-Aid **$7.99** 34 QTS.

Coffee Mate **$7.99** 50 OZ.

Folgers Coffee **$11.99** 33.3 OZ.

Maxwell Coffee Mix **$7.99** 100CT.

Fresco Vegetable Oil **$9.49** 1 GAL.

Dragon Vegetable Oil **$9.49** 1 GAL.

DelMonte Ketchup **$4.69** 2 64 OZ.

Royal Spaghetti Noodle **$2.49** 1 kg.

Foremost Milk **$20.99**

White Sugar 2kg **$2.79** 2 KG.

Kruataia Coconut Milk **99¢**

Golden State Vinegar **$3.99** 2 1 GAL.

Wilkins Water **$2.99** 6000ML

Pringles (All Kinds) **$1.99**

FAMILY BAG

Stew Chicken	$5.99	Pork Spareribs	$6.99
Chicken Leg Qtr	$4.99	Pork Butt Steak	$9.99
Chicken Nuggets	$11.99	Beef Ribeye	$15.99
Turkey Tail	$6.99	Beef Stew	$12.99
Mackerel Fish	$5.99	Beef Shank	$11.99
Pork Hock	$6.99	Beef Feet	$7.99
Pork Adobo	$9.99	Beef Shortribs	$15.99
Pork Bellies	$11.99	Ox Tail	$15.99
Pork Chop	$11.99		

BEVERAGE

Juicy Juice 6.75 oz. All Flavors **$2.25** pack

Kool-Aid Jammers/ Caprisun **$2.99** BOX

Sunkist **$6.99** CASE

Rota Water 500 ml. **$5.50** CASE

Ruby Kist Orange Juice **$3.79** 64oz.

Ruby Kist Apple Juice **$3.99** 64oz.

Pepsi Lite Can **$11.99** CASE LIMIT

Jinro Soju **$29.99** CASE

Hite Can **$16.99** CASE

PRODUCE

Onion **59¢** LB.

Potato **79¢** LB.

Cabbage **89¢** LB.

Korean Pear **$2.99** LB.

Broccoli **$1.49** LB.

Celo Apple **$3.99** /BAG

Orange **99¢** LB.

Honeydew/ Cantaloupe **99¢** LB.

Garlic **$1.25** 5 PCS.

U.S. X-Large Eggs **$2.25** 1 DOZ.

FROZEN

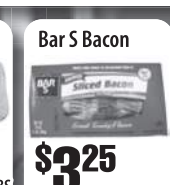
Hashbrown **$4.59** 20PCS. **$2.29** 10PCS.

Bar S Jumbo Franks **$1.19**

Millers Sausage **$16.99**

Bar S Ham **$18.99** 10LBS.

Bar S Bacon **$3.25**



Ground Beef **$11.99** 5LBS.

Chamorro Sausage **$4.49** 10LBS.

Ground Pork **$22.49** 10LBS.

Tilapia **$1.09** /LB.

Milk Fish **$1.49** /LB.

Green Shell Mussels **$5.99** 2LBS.

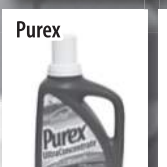
Frozen Cut Crab **$6.99**

Sea Wave Calanari **$1.89** 16oz.

S.C. Frozen Shrimp **$3.59** 16oz.

NON-FOOD

Purex **$4.49** 50 OZ.



Gain Liquid **$6.49** 50 OZ. **$10.99** 100 OZ.

Gain Powder 120 loads **$16.99** 50 OZ.

Joy Ultra **$1.49** 12.5 OZ. **$6.99** 90 OZ.

Dawn Dishwashing Soap **$8.99** 90 oz.

Suave Shampoo & Conditioner 2 for **$3.00**

Head & Shoulders Shampoo **$7.99** 23OZ.

Huggies Big **$18.99** BOX

Luvs Big **$17.99** BOX

Bounty Paper Towel **$19.99** 15 Rolls

Charmin Ultra Strong Tissue **$6.99** 24 Rolls

Charmin Basic Toilet paper **$8.29** 12ROLLS **$14.99** 24ROLLS

Foam Plates **$3.29** 50 CT **$7.99** 125 CT

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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EDITORIAL

A balancing act with Russia

Vladimir Putin isn't Josef Stalin; he isn't even Leonid Brezhnev. But the once, present and future Russian president's crackdown on dissent poses a challenge for the United States familiar to students of the Cold War: How to press for greater openness in Russia while engaging with it on important international issues? The answer now, as it was then, is not to allow the need for cooperation to stifle support for democracy.

Putin, the former KGB functionary who was elected president for the third time in March—after temporarily retreating to the office of prime minister—was outraged last month when sometimes violent demonstrations overshadowed his inauguration. Since then the regime has clamped down. Last week, Putin signed legislation raising fines for unauthorized protests to $10,000 for individuals and $30,000 for organizers. On Monday, Moscow police launched raids on the homes of as many as 15 opposition figures and seized anti-government literature.

Outrageous as they are, these actions can't compare with the oppression of the Soviet era, and Putin's critics should be careful not to assert a false "immoral equivalence" between the old and new orders. The U.S.S.R. was a totalitarian regime that brooked virtually no dissent or democracy and that enforced its authority with a vast gulag. The current government realizes it cannot suppress dissent in the same brutal fashion. For example, authorities granted a permit for a "Russia Day" demonstration Tuesday that brought tens of thousands of protesters into the streets of Moscow.

But a difference in the degree of repression doesn't alter the fact that the Obama administration, like its Cold War predecessors, must seek cooperation with Moscow even as it champions the rights of dissenters. In the 1960s the U.S. cooperated with the Soviet Union at the United Nations to broker an uneasy peace between Arabs and Israelis. Today, the Obama administration has been trying, so far unsuccessfully, to enlist Russia in international action against Syria. Russia is also a factor in efforts to restrain nuclear weapons programs in Iran and North Korea.

Allowing for the reserve that characterizes most diplomatic pronouncements, the State Department reacted relatively strongly to the new penalties for demonstrators and the searches of dissenters' homes. A spokeswoman said that "these measures raise serious questions about the arbitrary use of law enforcement to stifle free speech and free assembly." President Obama, who has been pursuing a "reset" of relations with Russia, must add his voice to the condemnation.

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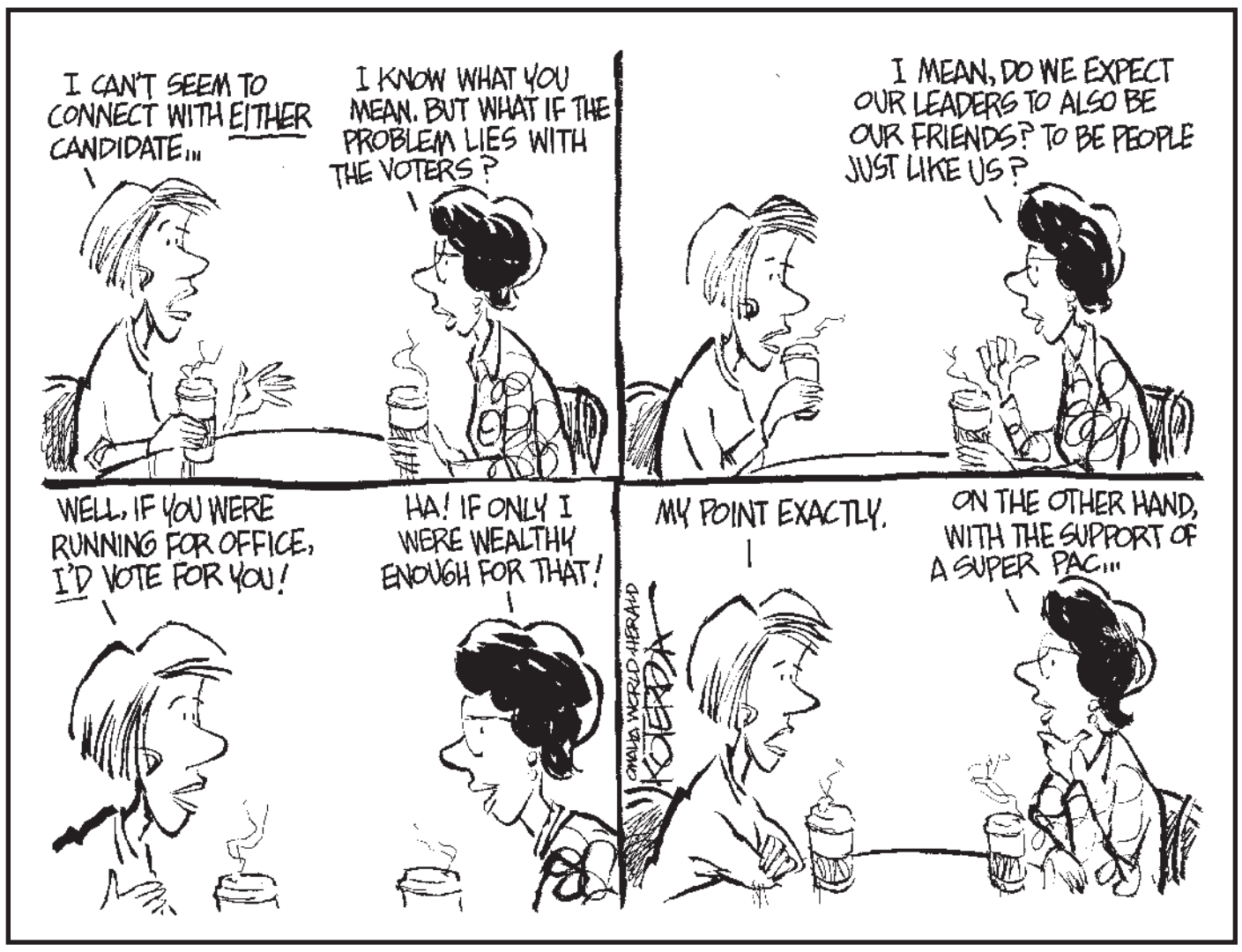

I CAN'T SEEM TO CONNECT WITH EITHER CANDIDATE...
I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN. BUT WHAT IF THE PROBLEM LIES WITH THE VOTERS?
I MEAN, DO WE EXPECT OUR LEADERS TO ALSO BE OUR FRIENDS? TO BE PEOPLE JUST LIKE US?
WELL, IF YOU WERE RUNNING FOR OFFICE, I'D VOTE FOR YOU!
HA! IF ONLY I WERE WEALTHY ENOUGH FOR THAT!
MY POINT EXACTLY.
ON THE OTHER HAND, WITH THE SUPPORT OF A SUPER PAC...

The Skylab and the submersible

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime R. Vergara (jrvergarajr2031@aol.com) previously taught at San Vicente Elementary School on Saipan and is currently a guest lecturer at Shenyang Aerospace University in China.

The *Tiangong* (literally, the sky dwelling) and the *Jiaolong* (the mythical sea dragon) are just as powerful in rhyme as their English names.

We wrote earlier of *Tiangong One* (ST Oct. 3, 2011), the unmanned space lab that China launched last year to have a go on its own since she (China uses motherland as the country's gender ID) was refused participation in the manned (sic) explorations of the International Space Station. China's aeronautic program is sending its first manned space mission to conduct experiments in the Skylab shortly. One of the astronauts is female. She will be the first one in Zhongguo's team of space explorers (and we shall thenceforth cease describing the staffing as being "manned").

The *Jiaolong* is grabbing front-page coverage as it prepares to plumb the depths of the Marianas Trench. We recall *Titanic* movie director James Cameron's solo dive March this year on a single porthole sub when he explored the Challenger Deep off Guam for National Geographic.

We did not miss the drama, though we were a bit disappointed at the cinematographic result. But then, at that depth, the unknown remains unknown, and the shrimps are blind. The *Jialong* has been about the mundane mapping of 70 percent of the ocean floor since its construction, and its anticipated dive to the deepest trench in the ocean was merely a matter of time. It is getting ready to descend this month.

China's submersible has three observation windows; three researchers will transmit gathered digitized live feed of data while the exploration is in progress.

These two high profile military-related achievements of the Chinese government, plus its visible naval presence in the Indian Ocean and Africa, and the display of military arsenal during national parades, are often used as the reason the United States is going to a "distrust and containment" policy toward the Han of the Asian continent.

We had been labeled anti-American due to some of our musings and told to return to the country where we came from. Of dual nationality, my *Pinoy* Presidente just recently hobnobbed with the State Department Secretary as she babbled the Foggy Bottom line fed by the Pentagon strategy of promoting a "vigilant" response to China's growing military power.

"China's military is growing and modernizing. We must be vigilant. We must be strong. We must be prepared to confront any challenge," was Defense Secretary Leon Panetta's address to graduates at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis recently.

An SF colleague thought us rude to characterize my Roman Catholic mom and United Methodist dad as turning "whore and pimp" so I am not surprised to read that my musing on the American military is considered treasonous.

Pointing out that the Empire's emperor wears no clothes is, of course, a revered tradition straight out of the American constitutional protection of the consent and dissent of the governed.

With the heightened hawkish sentiment evident among "DemoCrips and ReBloodlicans" (ex-Minnesota guv's Jesse Ventura's terms) emerging in the current presidential election regarding the threat posed by China, it is well to just present the objective facts shown on published military budgets.

Comparatively, China's military budget is just above 10 percent of that of the U.S. The combined military expenditures of China, the UK, France, Japan, Russia, Saudi Arabia (tops all budgets in percentage of GDP), Germany, India and Brazil combined is but two-thirds of the U.S. total. Or, put another way, the U.S. spends $6 of every $10 spent by the world on defense.

The 2009 U.S. Air Sea Battle combat theory specifically targets China because "the Chinese military has become a serious challenge to U.S. forces." The western Pacific island chains extending from Alaska to Australia hold the deterrent line. U.S. military strategists fear that the U.S. is rapidly developing an inferior position in the region. Consequently, Japan's claim of some Taiwan islands as part of Okinawa and the Philippines' claim on South China Sea islands as within their claim by the '80s Law of the Sea has the Pentagon's full backing. Grunts now sweat in Darwin.

We recall the U.S. objection to Palau's nuclear-free zone. That U.S. nuclear warheads were present in the Philippine military bases prior to Mt. Pinatubo's eruption is taken for granted; the current protest against U.S. militarism in the "land of the morning" stems from the realization that the nuclear warheads never left its waters or the land.

It really is not that the emperor wears no clothes. It is that the one it wears spells hypocrisy. We are the only nation that ever used atomic weapons, and we still hold a good 1,700 warheads in our ordnance! We may not have the imperial style of the Brits but we are imperialists nonetheless. Only, we wear neckties with uniformed storm trooper bodyguards kept at bay in carriers and outlying bases!

The exploration of outer and ocean space challenges Zhongguo's government budget, and preoccupies its administration. Uncle Sam rues over losing primacy on the cutting edge.

We just deal with peoples' inner space. Why else would we be teaching in China, silly!?!

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Star Date: Friday

If you're looking for the coolest Pacific news this week, I'll offer the latest from Hawaii. An observatory on the volcanic mountain of Mauna Kea has espied what is being billed as the oldest galaxy yet observed, said to be around 12.9 billion years old.

Just as we like to go atop Mt. Tapochau and peer off into the distance, enjoying what we can see nearby and imagining what we can't see over the horizon, the astronomers are peering so far these days they're getting close to seeing the beginnings of the universe itself.

Mt. Tapochau isn't tall enough for that task. But Mauna Kea stands 13,796 feet high, above the haze and within a lofty band of dry and stable atmosphere. This makes for good viewing conditions. A few serious scopes there are used by an international assortment of astronomers.

You've probably heard of the Hubble telescope. It is in orbit, which puts it above the muddling effect of the Earth's atmosphere. However, terrestrially-based observatories are still chugging along. In fact, the Europeans have announced plans to build the world's largest telescope in Chile, 129 feet in diameter, dubbed the, uh, European Extremely Large Telescope. Hey, I don't name the stuff, folks, I just pass along the information.

Just this month agreements are being inked for that project. It will take 10 or 11 years to build. It's more than a big telescope, it's a complicated one, employing mechanisms to try to counteract the effects of atmospheric interference. Well, the telescope is a European invention to begin with, so there you have it. Oh, they also have a space telescope in orbit, too.

Anyway, back to the Mauna Kea news. The discovery was made by a Japanese team. There are some rival claims to having spotted other "oldest" galaxies, so the scientific community is sorting this stuff out. But the Mauna Kea claim is apparently a very credible contender.

A 12.9-billion-year-old galaxy almost dates back to the Big Bang itself (13.7 billion years, give or take) and is a lot older than the Earth (4.5 billion years old.)

Given the fast rate of progress in astronomy, I figure that some time next week I'll be driving along, scanning through the radio for some news, and an announcement will go like so: "Scientists see the beginning of time, then break for lunch. More later."

The old, distant galaxies are where most of the headlines are, but there is some juicy action closer in. I hope I don't ruin any of your holiday plans, but there is a giant cosmic collision coming our way. The nearby Andromeda galaxy and our hometown galaxy, the Milky Way, are converging at a rate of 250,000 miles per hour. In 3.75 billion years they're going to smash together.

That's according to a May 31 article on the BBC's website. They did a nice spread on it, compete with an artist's depiction of the scene. "Our Sun's position will be disturbed," says the article, which goes on to offer a soothing note, "But the star and its planets are in little danger of being destroyed."

Little danger? Well, that sounds just a bit pat to me. Never turn your back on a galactic train wreck, that's what I say. After all, I've never met a man who survived one. Well, except for an Elvis impersonator we met near Vegas a few years back, but that's one guy out of billions.

The notion of Andromeda stuck in my noggin when I was a kid. A movie called The Andromeda Strain hit the scene, and it was quite a thriller. Based on a novel by the same name, it was about a space germ that rides a satellite back to Earth. I used to look heavenward and wonder where Andromeda was, and what it was up to (crashing onto our heads, as it turns out.)

If you think that Saipan's economic problems are big, then they'll shrink out of view if you look at truly big stuff. One estimate from 1999 Hubble data is that the universe harbors 125 billion galaxies. I've seen more recent estimates that go higher. Some galaxies might hold as many as 1 trillion stars. As for our galaxy, it has anywhere from 100 billion to 400 billion stars, and it takes light 100,000 years to travel from one end of the galaxy to the other. Earth is roughly half way between the center of the galaxy and the edge.

I've mentioned this number before, and it's something to ponder the next time you're kicking up sand on Micro Beach: One estimate carried on a 2003 CNN Web article said there are 10 times as many stars in the universe as there are grains of sand in all the Earth's beaches and deserts.

There's more to say on this subject because astronomy is really making headlines these days. And Hawaii, for its part, is a part of this scientific legacy.

By ED STEPHENS
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at http://edstephensjr.com/EdStephensJr.com. His column runs every Friday.

Saipan might not host any large telescopes, but the information age allows folks to enjoy the action anyway. Yes indeed, the universe awaits the inquisitive.

Culture of hysteresis

The fragility of our island economy is best demonstrated today by the closure of businesses that no longer could afford the prohibitive cost of utilities here. This was preceded by large and midsize businesses taking an exodus from the floodgates of investment. They brought with them billions of dollars in investment funds that once were recycled in the local economy.

Dazed and completely drained by the effects of the quick exodus of exogenous investments from the islands, the elected elite was derailed off their wits by the apocalyptic disaster destined to ruin everything in the islands like flesh eating bacteria.

It isn't a case of ignorance, but the obvious lack of leadership to guard our economic foundation and pillars from disintegrating. Perhaps its dangerous sway was taken as just another earthquake the hits the islands daily. It isn't!

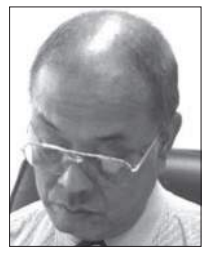
Our negligence to act promptly is what Joshua Cooper Ramo, author of the book The Age of the Unthinkable calls "hysteresis." Scientist use it to determine how long a certain system could withstand disturbance before it breaks down so fundamentally that it can't easily return to the way it once was, according to Ramo. (Mr. Ramo is managing director of Kissinger Associates, one of the world's leading geostrategic advisory firms and former foreign editor and assistant editor of Time magazine.)

The one issue that has suffered from hysteresis is the exodus of external investments. It's unthinkable how layer after layer of elected elite from both sides of the political spectrum royally failed to nurture what we already had so we turn them into lasting partnerships. Slowly and quietly they left the CNMI, after which most everything went nose-diving.

This bad tidings has adversely affected other investors who have done legwork to finalize plans and secure investment funds. They must have completed their plans but failed to get the money required from financing institutions to commence construction. Money institutions must have been nervous about all the uncertainties fanned by investors taking an exodus from the islands thus the cancellation of investment loans. Would the NMI ever recover?

Moving into social security

The decision by the administration to transition active employees into the U.S. Social Security Administration is the better option into a retirement program than anything else.



By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Delrosario is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune*'s Opinion Section*

It frees the CNMI from having to defray the costly requirement of a pension program it could no longer afford. It grants it the opportunity to finance other basic services like health, education, and public safety, among others.

Indeed, the already convoluted issue coupled with transition brings with it the excess baggage most active employees won't understand, given their angst for being denied what's theirs. But the move takes the larger issue in terms of what's best for the greater majority. And the concerns of members are trumped by the needs of the greater majority of the local populace.

Cities and state governments are grappling with the concern of how to pay for pension liabilities that have saddled their coffers with trillions of dollars beyond their means to pay. Debts have piled up in similar fashion like the CNMI. Piling trillions of dollars in deficit coming from an unsustainable and unaffordable pension program is pandemic.

Some have extended the retirement age to 62 while shaving off the entire package per member. It also includes cutting off abuses such as overtime factored into increasing pension benefits when it should have been premised on base salary. Others have seen fit to impose some 16 percent in additional income tax to defray a woefully costly pension program.

Here at home we've seen proposals that include the sale of public land to scaffold the needs of the pension program. While the intention

See CULTURE on Next Page

Letter to the Editor

The rabbit and the turtle

The "rabbit" (public services) and the "turtle" (CW1 visa) are preparing for another round of their "rat" race. The "rabbit" lost big time during the Nov. 28, 2011, race and has had over a year of rest and planning in the process to try and win this upcoming race that is just around the corner. That is, if the "rabbit" learned anything from the past race. Let us see.

Yes, I am talking about the second round of CW1 permits or work visa renewals that foreign national will have to undergo under the USCIS requirement. USCIS will be requiring employers to renew the CW1 work visa for their foreign national worker. These jobs will be required to be advertised so that the primary preference for U.S. eligible workers are observed and exhausted before submitting their renewal petition to USCIS. I am sure that this is a race that once again will victimize our U.S. citizens due to the same conditions that existed during the last race that contributed to the non-hiring of qualified and available U.S. eligible worker. The advertisement will be all over the place and provide no accountability, obscure job terms and conditions, or simple and direct lies like there is no job, advertisement is just a formality because USCIS requires it, and having no forum to be heard on these concerns, just to mention a few. There are no programs at our state level for our U.S. eligible workers' protection to fill jobs in which they are qualified. Our legislators know that these exist and one can't ignore this fact.

H.B.17-234 is at the mercy of the House of Representatives. This bill aims to harmonize the sharing and strengthening of responsibilities between the state and the federal government on labor issues. While, Public Law 110-229 preempts the CNMI immigration laws in their entirety, labor issues on the other hand did not. This means that a shared responsibility must be developed and implemented to provide continued protection to U.S. eligible workers, if not the entire CNMI population where U.S. citizens and nationals are concerned. This bill will provide continued protections in the areas of wage payment and benefits, job availability, referral and placement of U.S. eligible workers in jobs that are available in the private sector here in the CNMI. This is what we need and our lawmakers are not doing anything about it.

This bill has been sitting at the lower house for almost a year, or I'd say, over six months and nothing has come from it. It was heard but, at this point, it is rendered moot. Not one of our legislators is making noise about this bill. Why? Is it because they do not care about the protection of these workers? And if they claim they do, why is the bill gathering dust?

Election is right around the corner. I call on all people, constituents, and registered voters, to start asking your congressman the hard questions regarding this bill. This bill is good for every household member, if not the entire CNMI. This will definitely provide protection for you and generations to come.

Be on the lookout for lame excuses for not passing this bill. You know how politician react when they get caught in a corner. Let us push the rabbit to the finish line. Do not allow the arrogance and overconfidence to take precedence. This was their downfall in the last race. Change your "rabbit" should you need to. We can't have the same "rabbit" racing for us when we know that we are going to lose. Time to change. Time to win!

Alfred A. Pangelinan
Dandan, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼78°	▲87 ° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°

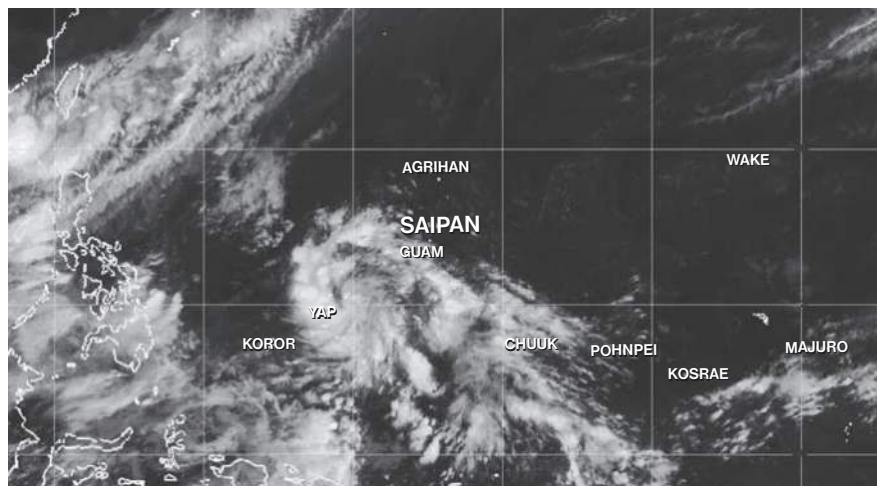
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲87	▼81
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼75
Yap	Showers	▲90	▼76
Chuuk	Showers	▲86	▼78
Pohnpei	Showers	▲87	▼77
Kosrae	Showers	▲87	▼77
Majuro	Showers	▲86	▼81

Around The Globe

Auckland	Sunny	▲56	▼43
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲93	▼64
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲86	▼81
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼73
London	Showers	▲62	▼56
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲69	▼59
Manila	Thundershowers	▲87	▼80
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲57	▼44
Miami	Thundershowers	▲88	▼76
New York	Sunny	▲78	▼59
Osaka	Thundershowers	▲78	▼70
Paris	Showers	▲70	▼59
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲76	▼67
Rome	Sunny	▲85	▼59
Salem	Mostly Sunny	▲78	▼54
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲72	▼58
Seoul	Thundershowers	▲81	▼65
Tokyo	Showers	▲71	▼66
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▲82	▼63

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00AM, THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 2012

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Tropical Storm Guchol (05W) is centered 105 miles north-northwest of Yap at 11N138E with maximum sustained winds near 50 mph. Guchol is moving west-northwest at 16 mph. Numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms are found within 90 miles of the center. For more detailed information on Tropical Storm Guchol, see bulletins issued by the JTWC under WMO header WTPN31 PGTW and by the NWS under WMO header WTPQ31 PGUM. Converging winds north and northeast of Guchol and an upper-level low centered west of Guam at 15N134E are combining to generate scattered showers and a few thunderstorms west of the Marianas within 170 miles of a line from 14N134E to 14N142E. Similar conditions are found over Guam within 75 miles of a line from 14N144E to 13N147E and over the northern CNMI within 70 miles of a line from 17N143E to 18N145E. A monsoon trough stretches eastward from 11N130E to TS Guchol at 11N138E then turns southeastward over Yap to end southwest of Chuuk at EQ147E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are seen over the Republic of Palau and Yap State south of a line from 6N130E to 9N135E to 9N147E. Low level convergence southeast of a stationary front near of Okinawa is producing cloudiness and patchy showers along and north of a line from 25N138E to 14N130E. Low level convergence is causing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms south of Pohnpei, Kosrae and Majuro within 125 miles of a line from 2N155E to 4N171E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

4:48 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
12:20 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
7:16 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.5 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:47 AM	6:48 PM
Saturday	5:47 AM	6:49 PM
Sunday	5:47 AM	6:49 PM
Monday	5:47 AM	6:49 PM
Tuesday	5:47 AM	6:49 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	2:15 AM	3:11 PM
Saturday	2:56 AM	4:01 PM
Sunday	3:40 AM	4:50 PM
Monday	4:26 AM	5:40 PM
Tuesday	5:14 AM	6:30 PM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 13, 2012

DEPARTURES

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA5062	2:40am	3:10am	1, 3, 5

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5 via ROP
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA5074	11:30pm	12:20pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:50pm	7:40pm	Daily
UA5072	9:55pm	10:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

0Z606	2:20am	6:00am	1
0Z606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
0Z604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily

SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

0Z606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
0Z606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:00pm	Daily via NRT
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	Daily via GUM
UA5076/193	3:10pm	10:25pm	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
0Z604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN
UA5072/PR111	9:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

0Z606/721	2:20am	11:50pm	1 via ICN
0Z606/721	2:50am	11:50pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:45pm	1, 5 via GUM
0Z604/723	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA5062	3:40am	5:40am	1, 3, 5

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA5062	2:40am	4:15am	1, 3, 5
UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5071	7:10am	8:00am	Daily
UA5073	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:25pm	6:15pm	Daily
UA5079	8:35pm	9:25pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:15pm	12:50am+1	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

0Z603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
0Z605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
0Z605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

DL172/288	7:50am	12:50am+1	Daily via NRT
UA190/5077	10:55am	6:15pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/5079	10:55am	9:25pm	3, 6 via GUM
0Z702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
0Z702/605	12:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA5071	10:10pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA192/5071	9:45pm	8:00am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:25pm	8:00am+1	2, 5 via GUM
0Z704/603	11:45pm	2:20pm+1	Daily via ICN

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

0Z724/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
0Z722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7
0Z722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
UA180/5071	10:35pm	8:00am+1	1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

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- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

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CULTURE

From Page 11

may be good, it brings into focus: Why just the pension program? What about the needs of public health, education, public safety, and other basic services?

The transition into the social security program should alleviate any further mindless grappling with a pension fund we can no longer afford. We messed it up and now can't figure out how to remove the rogue elephant from the room. Other pension packages are available under social security for active members that pay higher benefits than the normal program. It's up to you to explore this for your own benefit.

Perhaps inexperience and nearly a decade of economic abundance have blurred our vision in what's known as the laws of unintended consequences. The pension program is good but nobody had the guts to really buckle down to figure out its destiny: Stay solvent or insolvent. The latter is the penultimate trophy we've secured for ourselves in our constant bouts with hysteresis. Today, there's no single elixir to resolve the mess unless major reforms are undertaken.

I strongly recommend, however, that active members explore moving into social security. The program may be suffocating from trillions of dollars in debt, but Uncle Sam has the wherewithal to right a wrong to ensure the program stays solvent over the long haul. I am already in my sunset years with an understanding and appreciation of the importance of finding something at the end of a dark tunnel to pay for basic needs. A small sum is better than zero sum!

The bad times deepening beyond our wildest imaginings bring us closer to reality check of the dire need to live within our means. Though the immediate future looks bleak, there's still a ray of hope that we shall see brighter days after dark.

■■■■

Proponents of Article 12 feel it's perfectly fine to breath contempt against non-indigenous taxpayers in the expenditure of their contributions. I see, so it's okay to spend their money while denying them "equal protection" under the NMI Constitution to which contradictory provisions are superseded by the U.S. Constitution, the law of the land? Something's wrong with this adolescent mindset, right?

■■■■

Active Fund members may take exception with my recommendation. But take a critical look at your future needs to live out rainy days or sunset years. You owe it to your spouse and children for some semblance of maintenance. You'd have something to defray the cost of basic needs and Medicare benefits. Must leave something behind for your loved ones. To do otherwise would be selfish.

J.C. TENORIO ENTERPRISES
Presents
THE 2012
KIKKOMAN
COOK-OFF
Saturday, June 30, 2012 at 12:00 pm
Joeten Susupe Shopping Center
Limit: 10 Contestants per Category
Categories: Appetizer and Main Entrée
DO YOU LOVE COOKING? Are you a die-hard Kikkoman fan? Mix the two together and prove it! Enter your signature dish in The 2012 Kikkoman Cook-Off as either an appetizer or main entrée. Let our judges decide who the real Kikkoman Chef is! Note: dish must incorporate a Kikkoman product.
Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place. All participants will be given a Joeten T-shirt. Deadline to enter: Saturday, June 23, 2012
Entry Form
Name:
Address:
Daytime Phone Number:
Email Address:
Please attach a copy of your recipe to your entry form.
Submit your entry form and recipe to Frannie Demapan at Joeten Susupe Shopping Center. For more information, call 234-6445 ext. 292.
KIKKOMAN
Soy Sauce
ALL-PURPOSE
OVER 300 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

GUANGDONG HARDWARE
Never satisfied until you are
GUANGDONG MILEI? GUANGDONG BA ITO?
GOOD NEWS TO ALL TINIAN/ROTA CUSTOMERS:
To order just dial 288-2288, Payment can be made through credit card authorization, or cashier check, postal money order, traveler's check sent thru Freedom Air/ SN-5.
2012 BIG BANG SPECIAL!
HOLLOW BLOCKS (CMU) 4" – $0.65/pc 6" – $0.75/pc 8" – $0.85/pc
#4 REBAR $840.00/BUNDLE
#3,#5,#6,#7,#8 REBAR $850.00/ST MADE IN KOREA
THIN-SET MORTAR $7.80
JOINT COMPOUND $21.00 5 GAL.
ELECTRICAL PIPE 1/2" $2.40 | 3/4" $2.90
NEW ARRIVALS OF CERAMIC TILES 12"*12" $0.89/pc • 8"*12" $0.60/pc
CPVC PIPE 1/2" $18.00 • 3/4" $26.00 • 1" $35.00
OTHERS
CEMENT $7.50/BAG
DELIVERY CHARGE TO TINIAN-$3.00/BAG
SEMI-GLOSS INT. & EXT. LATEX $19.50/GAL | $79.99/PAIL
FLAT INT. & EXT. LATEX (PRIMER) $17.50/GAL | $69.50/PAIL
WIRE MESH 7'*50' $73.00
WIRE MESH 7'*100' $136.00
U.S. LUMBER
2X4X20 REGULAR: $7.50
2X4X20 TREATED: $14.50
UTILITY LUMBER REGULAR
2X4X12... $3.95 2X6X14... $7.60
2X4X14... $4.95 2X6X16... $8.90
2X4X16... $5.70 2X6X18... $9.90
2X6X12... $6.70 2X6X20... $10.90
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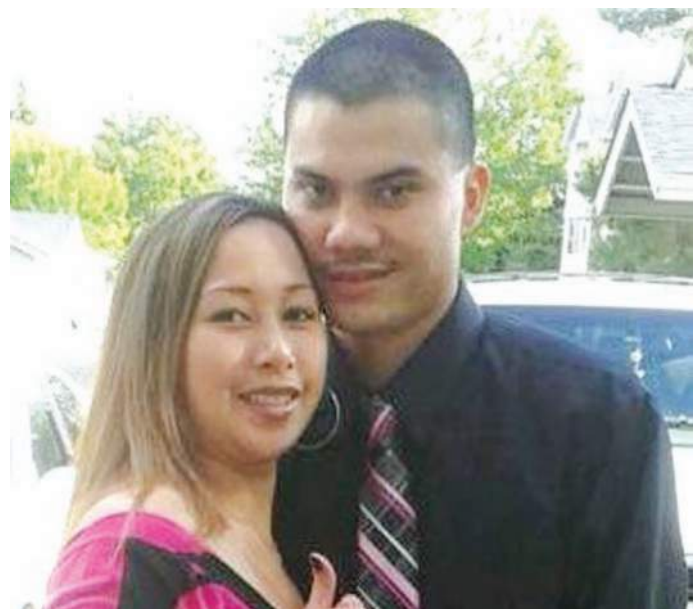
CONGRATULATIONS! CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Mark Daniel Versoza, who graduated junior high school with honors on June 7, 2012, at Grace Christian Academy, poses with his mother Mirasol and brother Arvin.



NEWLYWEDS CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Congratulations to the soon-to-be Mr. and Mrs. Johanzem and Victoria Sablan! They will be newlyweds this Saturday, June 16,2012, in Washington! May the good Lord bless and guide you both and your family to the end of time! We love and miss u guys! This big shoutout comes from Randall, Leslie, Mona, AJ, RJ, and your Saipan and Guam families and friends!

2012 models have arrived!
KIA MOTORS
The Power to Surprise™
Starting at $161 per paycheck*
The Kia Sportage
Designed for the next level.
The dynamic new Sportage is defined by its bold sporty design. Advanced technology abounds from its power plant and suspension system to its collision countermeasures. Its spacious ergonomically designed interior completes the package.
UP TO 31 MPG**
Starting at $126 per paycheck*
UP TO 34 MPG**
The 2012 Kia Forte
A unique combination of class-leading standard horsepower, fuel efficiently and advanced standard features.
Six Standard Airbags, Traction Control and MP3/USB Input
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Vehicle may not be exactly as shown • Some conditions apply • On approved credit • See dealer for details • While Supplies last. **EPA Estimated hwy mpg.
* Kia Sportage total price $21,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 60 monthly payments of $348.40 or $160.80 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred price $20,904.00. Kia Forte total price $17,195.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 60 monthly payments of $272.37 or $125.71 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred price $16,342.20. Documentation fees and registration not included.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

Happy birthday greetings to Jayvehn Phillip Atalig Fejeran, who is celebrating his special day today, June 15, 2012! You are an amazing son! We still remember the smile on your face when you were born. At that very moment, we knew that you had come into the world to spread smiles and cheer to everybody. Happy 10th birthday! With much love, Mom, Dad, and the family!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Belated happy 6th birthday to Edward Keoni Ruak Santos, who celebrated his special day on June 13.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Advanced happy birthday to Ms. Prescy Basquial, who will be celebrating her special day on June 18, 2012. Today is your day to shine as every day should be. Happy birthday! Greetings come from your Joeten Ace Hardware family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday greetings go out to Ms. Soledad Corpuz, who is celebrating her special day today, June 15, 2012! As God adds life to your years, may He add a man to your life! Happy birthday! Greetings come from your Joeten Ace Hardware family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

This happy birthday shoutout goes out to Vicente Aldan! May God continue to bless you life and give you the desires of your heart. Enjoy! From your Joeten Ace Hardware family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

GREEN CONSUME MARKET II

GRAND OPENING

Friday, June 15 thru Sunday, June 17, 2012

MEGA SALE!

Diamond Rice
50lbs.
$27.99

Vega Shrimp
1lb.
$5.75

Chicken Leg Qrt.
33 lbs.
$26.99

Pork Spare Ribs
20lbs.
$22.99

Tilapia
$1.09/lb.

Milkfish
$1.49/lb.

U.S. Extra Large Egg
$1.99/dozen

Spam
All Kinds
$2.39 Limit 6

Kool Aid
34 qts.
$8.49

Black Label/ OX & Palm Luncheon Meat
$1.99

Maxwell House Coffee Mix
100 Sticks
$7.99

Watermelon
$0.55/lb.

Located in Middle Road, Chalan Laulau

Give the gift of golf this Father's Day

The Northern Marianas College Foundation is encouraging those looking for the perfect gift for Father's Day to consider paying for dad's entry fee for the upcoming 10th Annual NMC Foundation Open golf tournament scheduled for Saturday, June 30, 2012.

"Whether he's a serious golf player or plays golf as a hobby, this tournament offers dads and other players a great day of fun, as well as a lively golf competition," said NMC Foundation president Ivan Quichocho.

The tournament will take place at the Saipan Laolao Bay Golf & Resort on the West Course with a shotgun start at 7am and will follow a medal play format.

There will be six separate flight categories: Championship, A, B, C, Seniors, and Ladies. The entrance fee is $95 per player.

Registration forms for the golf tournament can be downloaded from www.nmcnet.edu, or picked up at the Marianas Country Club, Saipan Country Club, Dandan Golf Range, Kingfisher Golf Links, and All Star Sporting Goods. Payments for the registration fee can be made at Laolao Bay Golf & Resort, Triple J Motors, and the NMC Cashier.

Tournament prizes for first place for each of the six flights include cash and roundtrip tickets to various destinations in the Pacific on United Airlines. Hole-in-one prizes include a 2012 Hyundai Accent donated by Triple J Motors.

"Golfers will also get the chance to win other prizes generously donated by many businesses in the community after the competition," Quichocho added. Raffle prizes range from cellular phones to golfing supplies to a roundtrip ticket courtesy of United Airlines.

For more information about the golf tournament, log on to www.nmcnet.edu or call 234-5498 Ext. 1050 or 1051. ***(NMC)***

NMC

Golfers pose for a photo during last year's 9th Annual Northern Marianas College Foundation Open golf tournament. This year's golf tournament is set for Saturday, June 30, 2012, at the Saipan Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

Spikes & Chains V1 Fest 2012: Bite into the action

The excitement is brewing up as El Drako Kennels goes into full gear for the much anticipated event in Saipan this year—the Spikes & Chains V1 Fest 2012: Saipan Bully and All Breeds of Dog Show.

Everyone is invited to bite into the action when Spikes & Chains takes off on July 8, 2012, at the Filcom Pavillion grounds in Susupe. Highlights of the event include a bully/ dog show and bike show that will a bit of everything for all ages. Doors will open at 2pm while the show itself will start at 3pm. Entrance fee is only $2 and children 7 years old and below are free.

The American Bully and Dog Show will feature all kinds of breeds with different categories for Papered American Bully, Non-Papered American Bully, and APBT (American PitBull Terrier) and all kinds of breeds in the Fun Show. Dogs will be categorized under pocket, standard, and XL.

Points will be given to every winner, until they earn enough number of points to be declared champion or grand champion, which they will earn through a series of show or challenges they will participate in.

The idea behind opening the show to all dog breeds and not just to American Bullies is to give all proud dog owners and lovers a chance to show off their pets.

Showing off dogs may seem like nothing more than a beauty pageant. However, a dog show is a process of judging each dog to determine which one conforms most closely to written standards. These standards include specification of structure, temperament and movement.

Just a few reminders to interested participants: Dog owners will be responsible for their pets and should maintain cleanliness in their designated areas or their entry will be disqualified. Face-to-face encounters among dogs is discouraged to avoid possible dog brawls. Available booths for kennel owners is on a first-come, first-served basis. Certificates for all entries will be given at the end of the program.

Tips on proper dog handling will be provided, especially to beginners and those who are still planning to acquire dogs.

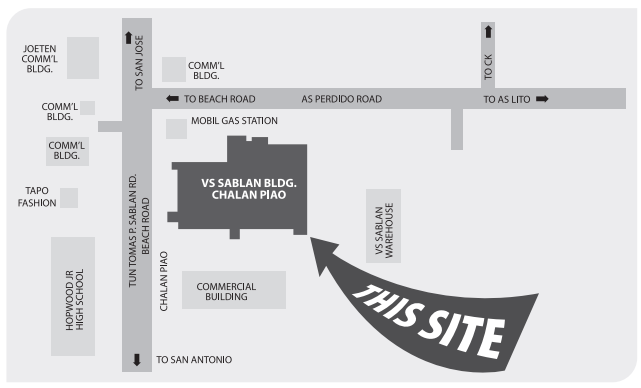
This unique festival promises to be a huge hit as it guarantees a family-fun atmosphere and creative presentations by participants. There will be a live band , foods and drinks for sale, big bikes on display, and a raffle draw with a grand prize of an American Bully Puppy. Raffle tickets cost only $5 each.

In addition, there will be a fundraiser to cover all necessary expenses for this event.Called "All Night Happy Hour," it will be held at the Godfather's Bar on June 29, 2012, starting at 6:30pm onward. Tickets will be $10 with one free drink and chasers, with a chances to win exciting prizes from sponsors, but most of all a chance to win a free tattoo from MegaVision El Drako Tattoo. All night will be happy hour prices on selected drinks.

Part of the proceeds from the event will be donated to the Marianas Cancer Society. Sponsors are IT&E, TSL Foundation, Power 99, Budweiser, Coca Cola, Borderline, The TRAPP, Konflikt, Pacific Island Club, and Godfather's Bar.

For sponsorship and other inquiries, call Edong of El Drako Kennel at 233-8288, or email or megavisioneldrako@yahoo.com. Like El Drako Kennel on Facebook to get news and updates about the Spikes & Chains V1 Fest and other exciting events and promotions. ***(PR)***

Sablan Enterprises, Inc
***dba* SABLAN REALTY**



With Three Great Commercial Building Locations in Chalan Piao, Chalan Kanoa, and San Jose

VS Sablan Mall Indoor Bazaar in Chalan Piao
Now Open Daily 10:00AM to 7:00PM

Checkout **OUR INDOOR BAZAAR VENDORS**.
They Have what you need at the Right Price.

House Plants, Orchids & Housewares, Clothing and Accessories on Sale Every Day

Visit Melanie's Gift Shop, Morning Glory, KRM General Merchandise, & Asia Market

Sablan Building Chalan Kanoa
Home of **Pena House Boutique** & the **Bank of Saipan**

SABLAN REALTY
invites you to locate your business or residence at one of our great locations.
Maintenance Free. Common Areas & Grounds Cleaned Daily.
Commercial Space Rent at our San Jose & Chalan Piao Buildings. 2nd Floor units Available at San Jose for **50 Cents per Square Foot**.

At **Our Chalan Piao Building, VSS PLAZA** we have rental space available on the **first floor** now at **65 cents per square foot** for units ranging from 700 sq ft to 1400 sq ft. Large 4500 square foot space on the second floor that would be ideal for a GYM or Dance Studio at **35 cents per square foot.**

2nd Floor Apartment for Rent at our Chalan Kanoa Annex Location – 2 Bedroom, 1 Bath, 600 sq ft, Newly Refurbished (New Tiles, Paint, Great Floor Plan), Semi Furnished with New Refrigerator & Tabletop 2 Burner Gas Range (Save on Power). Wall Fans Installed in each Room. Must see to Appreciate **REDUCED RENT at $335.00 per Month plus Utilities.**

2nd Floor Apartment at our Chalan Piao Location – 1BR 1 Bath 560 sq ft with Refrigerator $235.00 per month plus Utilities

3rd Floor Apartment for Rent at our Chalan Piao Location – 3 Bedroom, 2 Full Bath, Semi-Furnished with Refrigerator & Stove, 1470 sq ft, Save on Power – Great Breeze thru the Apartment. No Need Air Conditioning. **$550 per month plus Utilities**

For Lease – 53,500 Sq Meters Available for Lease in Kanat Tabla.
Ocean View. 31 years Remaining on Lease.
Asking 10.00 per square meter. Negotiable.
– 3,779 Sq Meters Available for Lease at Laulau Bay. 44 years Remaining on Lease.
Asking $25.00 per square meter. Negotiable.

Welcome H-MART
to our Chalan Piao Business location

Contact Tony Muna (Cell No. 888-9290 Email Address: plebechamp80@gmail.com) or Ben Sablan (Cell No. 898-9285 Email Address: vicente_sablan@yahoo.com) or Call 234-2585.

PUBLIC INVITATION FOR FREE TRAINING IN VOLUNTARY RESPONSE PROGRAM

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ) will be offering public outreach and training for the newly established Voluntary Response Program (VRP). The VRP offers the public the opportunity to voluntarily enter into an agreement with DEQ to clean up land contaminated with hazardous and/or petroleum waste rather than face an enforcement action for the clean-up activities. Examples of contamination include hazardous chemical and oil spills, underground storage tank (UST) leaks, etc. Property owners, real estate purchasers and developers are encouraged to attend the free training at the time and locations below:

Wednesday June 20th, 2012 - Tinian
Tinian Public Library, San Jose, Tinian, 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Thursday June 21st, 2012 - Rota
Rota Mayor's Office, Songsong, Rota, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Monday, June 25, 2012 - Saipan
DEQ Main Conference Room, Gualo Rai, Saipan, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Please contact Mr. Ray Masga, DEQ Program Manager, at 671-664-8500 for any inquiries.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) and the CNMI Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ) , in accordance with the requirements of 40 CFR 35.912, are announcing that a public hearing will be held regarding the state priority lists for both drinking water and wastewater projects eligible for funding under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's "State Revolving Fund" construction grant program. The proposed priority lists are available for public review any time during regular working hours at the CUC Engineering Office, located on the third floor of the Joeten Building in Dan Dan, Saipan. The lists were developed in accordance with the CNMI's priority ranking systems, on the basis of a number of factors including the affected population served by each project, the degree to which public health and the environment would be protected, and a number of other factors which may also be reviewed, upon request, at the CUC Engineering Office. Electronic copies of the lists and scoring criteria may also be obtained by sending an e-mail to brian.bearden@cucgov.org, or larry.manacop@cucgov.org.

The public hearing will be held at the DEQ Main Conference Room at the Gualo Rai Center, Middle Road, Gualo Rai, Saipan, at **noon (12:00 p.m.) on Monday, June 18, 2012**. For additional information, please contact the CUC Water and Wastewater Engineering staff at 235-7025 through -7030.

ALAN FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director

EPA's 15 hot tips for a cool summer

»Save money, water, energy while protecting health and encouraging environmental learning

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency released yesterday a list of 15 tips for the summer season, which kicks off June 20. Whether relaxing at home or off exploring the great outdoors there are many ways people can save money, cut energy costs and continue to protect the health of their families while still enjoying the summer.

Tips for a safe and enjoyable summer:

1. Energy Star savings for your home: The average home spends almost 20 percent of its utility bill on cooling. These cooling bills can be lowered by simply changing out incandescent light bulbs with EPA's Energy Star qualified lighting, which use less energy and produce approximately 75 percent less heat. Raising your thermostat by only two degrees and using your ceiling fan can lower cooling costs by up to 14 percent too. http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=products.es_at_home

2. Increase your gas mileage: Obey the speed limit; go easy on the breaks and avoid hard accelerations; reduce your time idling; and unload unnecessary items in your trunk to reduce weight. If you're not using your removable roof rack take it off to improve your fuel economy. http://www.fueleconomy.gov

3. Prevent skin cancer and be SunWise: Skin cancer is the most common form of cancer in the U.S. and is the most common cancer among 20 to 30-year-olds. Remember to practice safe sun habits. http://www.epa.gov/sunwise/actionsteps.html

4. Heading to the beach? Check the water: Americans take almost two billion trips to the beach every year. Beaches are a place to play, watch wildlife, fish, and swim. Learn more on how to plan a safe trip to the beach and check out state specific beach advisory and closing notifications. http://water.epa.gov/type/oceb/beaches/whereyoulive_state.cfm

5. Take EPA's apps with you on your smartphone: The AirNow app gives location-specific current air quality information to use to protect your health when planning daily activities and the Ultraviolet (UV) Index app provides daily and hourly forecast of the UV radiation levels from the sun so you can better prevent overexposure to the sun. http://m.epa.gov/apps/index.html

6. Enjoy the outdoors and capture the State of the Environment: Almost 40 years ago, EPA's Documerica project captured thousands of images across the nation as EPA's work was just beginning. Now it's your chance to mark the progress and submit environmental photos to EPA's State of the Environment photo project. http://blog.epa.gov/epplocations/about/

7. Protect yourself with insect repellents: Mosquitoes and ticks can carry diseases but you can protect yourself by choosing the right repellent and using it correctly. Read the product label before using; apply just enough to cover exposed skin and clothing; and look for the protection time that meets your needs. Children can use the same repellents as adults unless there is a restriction on the label. http://epa.gov/pesticides/insect/safe.htm

8. Water wisely: A large percentage of water we use at home is used outdoors. As much as 30 percent of that outdoor water use can be wasted due to evaporation by watering in the middle of the day. Water in the morning when winds are calm and temperatures are cool. Look for the new WaterSense labeled weather-based irrigation controller that uses local weather data to determine whether your sprinkler system should turn on. http://www.epa.gov/watersense

9. Clean greener: If you're going to wash the car, deck, boat, or RV– be sure to look for the Design for the Environment (DfE) label to quickly identify and choose cleaning products that are safer for families and also help protect the environment. Look for the DfE label on grill cleaners as well. http://www.epa.gov/dfe

10. Improve your indoor air: About 90 percent of people's time is spent indoors. While inside this summer, make sure to free your house of mold, test your home for radon, check your carbon monoxide detector and ask those who smoke to go outdoors. http://www.epa.gov/iaq

11. Check into an Energy Star hotel: On average, America's 47,000 hotels spend more than $2,000 per available room each year on energy. Look for an Energy Star certified hotel--they perform in the top 25 percent of hotels nationwide, use an average of 35 percent less energy and emit an average of 35 percent less greenhouse gas emissions than peers. http://www.energystar.gov/buildinglist

12. Waste less and remember to recycle: Each year, Americans generate millions of tons of waste in homes and communities but it's easy to reduce, reuse, and recycle. Recycled items such as glass can be used in roadway asphalt (glassphalt) and recovered plastic can be used in carpeting and park benches. Learn what you can do to waste less. http://www.epa.gov/wastewycd/summer.htm

13. Season firewood: Summer is a great time to season firewood in preparation for fall and winter. Remember to split firewood to the proper size for your wood stove or fireplace, but no larger than 6 inches in diameter; stack firewood to allow air to circulate around it; cover the top of the stack to protect it from the rain; and store your firewood for at least 6 months before using it. http://www.epa.gov/burnwise

14. Looking for a summer project and tired of the heat? Try composting: Composting can be a fun and educational summer project that saves landfill space, helps feed the soil and prevents methane, a potent greenhouse gas. http://www.epa.gov/waste/conserve/rrr/composting/basic.htm

15. Let summer inspire you and submit Six Words for the Planet: Keep the creativity flowing beyond the school year and into the summer by submitting a meaningful story or idea in just six words. http://blog.epa.gov/blog/2012/04/sixwords/

ON THE NET

- More local information from MyEnvironment: http://www.epa.gov/myenvironment/
- More hot tips for a cool summer: http://www.epa.gov/epahome/hi-summer.htm
- All year long you can Pick5 for the Environment: http://www.epa.gov/pick5/

Jagadish C. Roy
P.O. Box 502082 CK
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No.: 285-2935

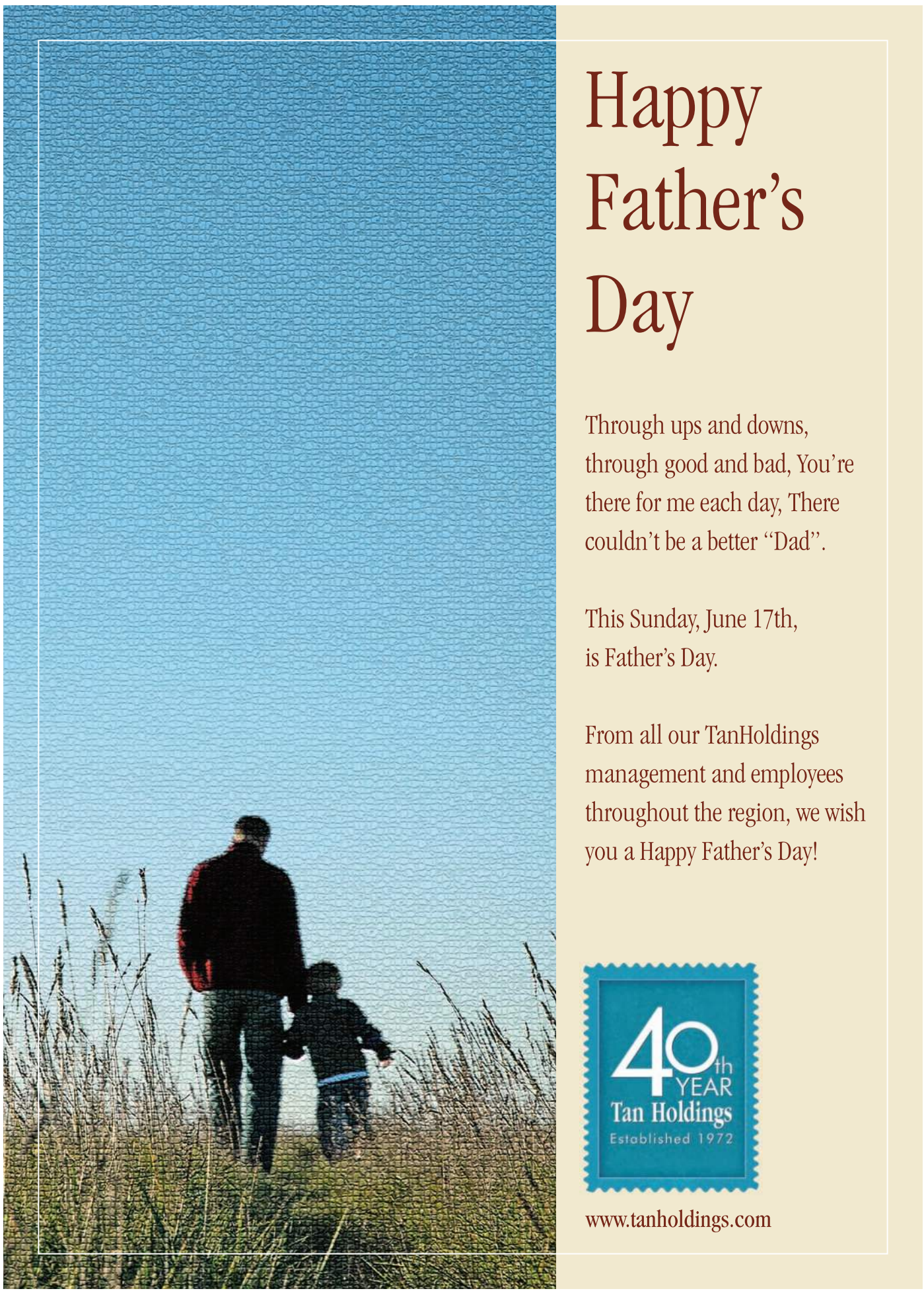
PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In The Matter Of The Adoption Of: T.Z.M. (d.o.b: 10/31/08) Minor Child, **By: Jagadish C. Roy,** Petitioner(s)	**FCD AD CIVIL ACTION NO. 12 - 0243** **NOTICE OF HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on July 2, 2012 at 1:30 p.m. in Courtroom 217A, before Associate Judge Perry B. Inos.

Bernadita A. Sablan
Clerk of Court
/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court


Happy Father's Day
Through ups and downs, through good and bad, You're there for me each day, There couldn't be a better "Dad".
This Sunday, June 17th, is Father's Day.
From all our TanHoldings management and employees throughout the region, we wish you a Happy Father's Day!
40th YEAR
Tan Holdings
Established 1972
www.tanholdings.com

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.mp

AUCTION NOTICES

The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC), as auctioneer and seller, hereby gives notice that all the rights, title and interests of NMHC in and to the following described real property will be sold at auction:

LOT NO.:	001 C 57	MORTAR LN., SAN ROQUE, SAIPAN	**MINIMUM BID:**	$68,230.00
LOT NO.:	006 T 18	SAN JOSE VILLAGE, TINIAN	**MINIMUM BID:**	$56,219.36

The auction will be open to the general public and will be held at NMHC's conference room, Garapan, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. on June 26, 2012, subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. Minimum Bid. The minimum acceptable bid for each property shall be $(please see above).
2. Reserve. The auction sale shall be held with reserve.
3. Rights and Duties of NMHC as Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, NMHC shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
   a. To withdraw any property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
   b. To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c. To reject any and all bids.
4. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Mr. Jesse S. Palacios, Acting Corporate Director, NMHC, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950; Telephone: 234-6866; Facisimile: 234-9021; or to Law Office of Vicente T. Salas, P.O. Box 501309, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
5. Deposit; Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale by cash, cashier's check or credit card (Visa or Mastercard). The remaining balance will be due within three (3) calendar days of the auction sale. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within three (3) calendar days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will automatically revert to NMHC.
6. Change of Terms. NMHC reserves the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
7. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. The interests of NMHC in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property or any related documents will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.
8. Lease with Option to Purchase. NMHC gives notice that it will also consider bids or offers to lease the property, subject to the following additional terms and conditions:
   a. The Lease Price bid shall not be less than the listed Minimum Bid price.
   b. An up-front payment of ten percent (10%) of the Lease Price must be paid upon award by cash, cashier's check or credit card (Visa or Mastercard).
   c. The balance of the Lease Price shall accrue interest at six percent (6%) per annum.
   d. Monthly payments of the Lease will be considered rental payments only and not installments toward purchase and shall not grant the lessee any equity or ownership interest in the property or be construed in any way to encumber NMHC's rights, title and interest in the property beyond the granting of a lease for a specific term of years.
   e. Maximum acceptable Lease term shall be thirty (30) years.
   f. A lease agreement will be given upon receipt of the up-front payment and shall include:
      i. No alterations or improvements without the prior written consent of NMHC.
      ii. Lessee to insure property and improvements during the Lease term.
      iii. Lessee responsible for all utilities and other charges associated with the property.
      iv. Lease not to be assigned or mortgaged without prior written consent of NMHC.
      v. Failure to make a monthly payment grounds for termination and eviction.
      vi. Lease may, at the request of lessee, contain an Option to Purchase provision exercisable upon: (A) payment in full of the Lease Price; (B) the Lease not having been declared to be in default; and (C) payment of $100.00 option consideration. If the option is properly exercised, a quitclaim deed will be given.
   g. In the event of competing lease bids, greater weight will be given to the leasehold offer with the better price, shorter term and larger monthly payments.

Dated this 23rd day of May, 2012.

/s/ Jesse S. Palacios, Acting Corporate Director
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation

Business

Spain calls for European integration to save euro

MADRID (AP)—Spain faced mounting pressure Wednesday to bolster confidence in its financial system just days after accepting a (EURO)100 billion ($125 billion) plan to rescue its banks.

Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy called for greater European fiscal and banking integration to save his country and the 17-country euro currency alliance.

Madrid's key borrowing rate closed at a euro-era high, indicating deep investor concern about the government's financial stability.

And late Wednesday, Moody's Investor Service slashed the government's credit rating by three notches to just above "junk" status. Moody's cited the level of debt Spain will be absorbing, the weakness of its economy and the government's limited ability to raise money.

Moody's said it put Spain on review for another possible downgrade in coming months.

Rajoy went on the offensive in parliament earlier Wednesday. He lambasted the Socialist opposition for not addressing the country's banking debt crisis when it was in power from 2004 until November, and called for their support in "a project for European fiscal and banking integration."

He said Europe now faced a key issue, "which is the subject of liquidity, debt sustainability, and that battle has to be waged in Europe," Rajoy said in the lower chamber. "You and I agree on that, and I am waging it," he said looking straight at leader of the opposition, Alfredo Perez Rubalcaba. Market pressure on Spain continued to grow, with the 10-year-bond yield—an indication of investor confidence in a state's ability to pay off its debt—ending the day at 6.71 percent, according to FactSet, the highest closing price since the country adopted the euro currency. Madrid's stock index finished the day up 1.4 percent.

Rajoy told Spain's gathered lawmakers that he had sent a letter to Jose Manuel Barroso, president of the EU Commission, and Herman Van Rompuy, president of the European Council, calling for new measures that might help weaker states like Spain. Those could include sharing debt burdens across countries or guaranteeing bank deposits across the eurozone.

Japan could restart nuclear reactors this weekend

TOKYO (AP)—Japan moved closer Thursday to restarting nuclear reactors for the first time since last year's earthquake and tsunami led to a nationwide shutdown after a mayor gave his support to a plan to bring two of them back online.

All 50 of Japan's workable reactors are offline because of safety concerns or for maintenance since the March 11 disaster touched off a crisis at the Fukushima Dai-ichi plant. Public opposition to nuclear power remains high, even though the government has been pressing for the restarting of reactors because it says nuclear energy is crucial to Japan's economy.

The mayor of the western town of Ohi on Thursday signed off on the plan to restart the town's two reactors. The prime minister has to give final approval, which Japanese media reports said will likely happen Saturday. The two reactors could be restarted as soon as this weekend. Japan could restart nuclear reactors this weekend.

Apartment and Condominium for Rent

GILL BLAS CONDOMINIUM

One Year Contract: Regular Price from ~~$650.00~~ NOW $500.00
Monthly Basis: Price Ranges from $550.00
Power and Water EXCLUDED
LOCATION: Lower Miha, GARAPAN, where 747 Dining & Bar is situated
AMENITIES:
- 24-hr water supply
- Common waste container
- Free moving-service
- On-duty security guard at night
- Parking space
- Back-up generator
- Furnished unit w/ balcony
- Laundry facility
- On-site maintenance
- Swimming pool

SEDA BLANCA APARTMENT

Monthly Basis: Studio Type - $350.00 • 1 Bedroom - $450.00
Power and Water EXCLUDED
LOCATION: Lower Miha, GARAPAN, nearby 747 Dining & Bar
AMENITIES:
- 24-hr water supply
- Common waste container
- Free moving-service
- On-site maintenance
- Back-up generator
- Furnished unit w/ balcony
- Laundry facility
- Parking space

PASTEL INN APARTMENT

One Year Contract: Studio – Regular Price ~~$350.00~~ NOW $250.00
2 Bedroom Regular Price ~~$550.00~~ NOW $400.00
Monthly Basis: Studio Type - $270.00 • 2 Bedroom - $420.00
LOCATION: SAN JOSE, right next to Roshi's Store (along Beach Rd)
AMENITIES:
- 24-hr water supply
- Common waste container
- Free moving-service
- On-site maintenance
- Swimming pool w/ BBQ area
- Back-up generator
- Furnished unit w/ balcony
- Laundry facility
- Spacious yard
- Broad parking space (front area and backside)

Apartment Promo
monthly basis-renewable until June 30, 2012

ANAKS OCEAN VIEW HILL SAIPAN

GILL BLAS CONDOMINIUM

UNITS FOR SALE

ANAKS RESORT
Available units:
2-BEDROOM—Size: 79 square meter
3-BEDROOM—Size: 123 square meter

GILL BLAS CONDOMINIUM
Available units:
1-BEDROOM—Size: 60 square meter
2-BEDROOM—Size: 75 square meter
3-BEDROOM—Size: 120 square meter

SEDA BLANCA APARTMENT

PASTEL INN APARTMENT

ATOM'S MANAGEMENT & CONSULTING | **233-8880**

We also accommodate Daily, Weekly or Monthly basis.
Promo price in only offered for cash payments.
Payments made by credit card will be charged the regular price.

For further details: You can visit ATOM's CO., LTD. office, located in Garapan, Saipan. Our office hour is 9:00 am to 6:00 pm on weekdays and 12:00 pm to 5:00 pm on weekends. You can also contact us thru phone at 233-8880 or send us an e-mail at atoms@pticom.com

Nation

Dems: Obama could lose, donors better get moving

WASHINGTON (AP)—In growing numbers, once-confident Democrats now say President Barack Obama could lose the November election.

The hand-wringing reflects real worries among Democrats about Obama's ability to beat Republican rival Mitt Romney, who has proven to be a stronger candidate than many expected. But it's also a political strategy aimed at rallying major donors who may have become complacent.

Interviews with a dozen Democratic strategists and fundraisers across the country show an increased sense of urgency among Obama backers. It follows a difficult two weeks for the president, including a dismal report on the nation's unemployment picture, a Democratic defeat in the Wisconsin governor recall election and an impressive fundraising month for Romney and Republicans.

"We've all got to get in the same boat and start paddling in the same direction, or we're going to have some problems," said Debbie Dingell, a Democratic National Committee member and the wife of Michigan Rep. John Dingell.

"We can't take this for granted," said Peter Burling, a DNC member from New Hampshire. "I intend to be running scared from now until November."

These worries have also prompted some second-guessing of an Obama campaign operation once perceived as run by disciplined message specialists. Democratic pollster Stan Greenberg and former Clinton adviser James Carville this week wrote that Obama's efforts to convince voters that economic conditions are moving in the right direction aren't swaying people.

"We will face an impossible head wind in November if we do not move to a new narrative," the strategists wrote.

Former Democratic Party chairman Don Fowler faulted the Obama camp for not laying more blame on Republicans for the slow economic recovery.

"The Obama campaign should make it clear whose fundamental fault the economic problems are, and they've chosen not to do that," he said, echoing an argument made by other Democrats. "Not doing that, they forfeit an argument, a strategy, a technique toward making the Republicans bear responsibility for these problems."

Accusers: Sandusky employed threats and gifts

BELLEFONTE, Pa. (AP)—One, a foster child, said he was threatened, warned he would never see his family again if he ever told anyone what happened. Another said he stayed quiet because he didn't want to stop getting tickets to the hottest game in town—Penn State football.

That was how two of Jerry Sandusky's accusers explained the former Penn State assistant coach's hold over them.

"He told me that if I ever told anyone that I'd never see my family again," the former foster child said Wednesday, the third day of testimony in Sandusky's child sexual abuse trial.

He said it terrified him when Sandusky uttered the threat after the coach pinned him while wrestling in the basement of the Sandusky home and performed oral sex on him.

Sandusky, 68, is charged with sexually abusing 10 boys over a 15-year period, accusations he has denied. His arrest last fall rocked Penn State and led to the firing of football coach Joe Paterno for not taking stronger action against Sandusky after allegations emerged a decade ago.

Three of Sandusky's accusers testified Wednesday, bringing to five the number of them to take the stand.

Tom Kline, the lawyer for one of them, told reporters outside the courthouse: "It's just remarkable how many children one man can shower with."

The 25-year-old man who told jurors about the threat to keep him away from his biological family when he was younger said he believed Sandusky's wife was inside the home, on a different floor, at the time. A foster child placed with another family, he occasionally stayed in the Sanduskys' basement in State College in the late 1990s.

Speaking in a calm but sometimes hesitant voice, he said Sandusky later apologized for the threat: "He told me he didn't mean it and that he loved me."

Federal prosecutors drop case against John Edwards

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP)—Federal prosecutors dropped all charges Wednesday against John Edwards, triggering criticism that the year-long prosecution of the former presidential candidate was a waste of time and taxpayer money.

After a six-week trial in North Carolina, jurors acquitted Edwards May 31 on one count of accepting illegal campaign contributions and deadlocked on five other felony counts. The judge declared a mistrial.

The U.S. Justice Department said in a court order that it will not seek to retry Edwards on the five unresolved counts.

Assistant Attorney General Lanny A. Breuer, who oversees the agency's criminal division, said prosecutors knew the case, like all campaign finance cases, would be challenging. But he said it is "our duty to bring hard cases" when warranted.

"Last month, the government put forward its best case against Mr. Edwards, and I am proud of the skilled and professional way in which our prosecutors.... conducted this trial," he said, adding that he respected the jury's judgment and decided not to seek a retrial "in the interest of justice."

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED BIDS for Terminal Improvements, Phase I at the Tinian International Airport, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Project No. CPA-TA-002-08 will be received at the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada / Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP, 96950,

All Bids shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: Tinian International Airport, Terminal Improvements, Phase I, Project No. CPA-TA-002-08 and must be submitted no later than **2:00 PM on FRIDAY, July 13, 2012** to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport, at which time and place the sealed Bids will be publicly opened and read.

The Project, in general, consists of, but is not limited to, demolition, building and site improvements, including concrete foundations, concrete slab-on-grade, cast-in-place concrete, roof membrane, metal roofing, thermal insulation, concrete masonry unit walls, non-structural metal framing, carpentry, gypsum board, ceramic tiles, resilient flooring, acoustical ceilings, aluminum doors and frames, aluminum windows, glazing, cabinetry, toilet partitions, toilet accessories, painting, ventilation, air conditioning, plumbing, electrical lighting and power, complete and ready for use all in accordance with the Project Drawings and Specifications.

The Project is being financed by funds from CNMI Capital Improvement Program. The Contract award, if it is made, will be made within ninety (90) calendar days of the receipt of Bid Proposals. CPA reserves the right to hold such Bids in effect for one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the date of Bid opening.

The Contract period for construction of the Project in its entirety shall be One Hundred Eighty (180) calendar days. Liquidated damages in the amount of Three Hundred Dollars ($300.00) shall be assessed the Contractor for each calendar day that completion of the Project is delayed beyond the Contract completion date without approved excuse.

The apparent low Bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." The review will include, but is not necessarily limited to, previous projects experience, financial capability, quantity and quality of equipment and personnel, and ability to secure bonding and insurance. If the apparent low Bidder is found to be not "responsive and responsible", their Bid will be rejected and the next lowest Bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

All mechanics and laborers on the Project shall be paid not less than the minimum wage rate established by CNMI Law or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. The Contractor shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract. A copy of the CNMI Minimum Wage Rate Determination is included in the General Provisions, Section 70-25.

Each Bidder must complete, sign, and furnish the "Bidder's Statement on Previous Contracts Subject to EEO Clause", a "Certification of Non-Segregated Facilities", and the "Assurance of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises Participation", as contained in the Bid Proposal documents, with submission of their Bid Proposal.

A CD-Rom containing the Bid Proposal and Contract Documents, including Drawings and Specifications, may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada / Saipan International Airport, upon payment of TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS ($200.00) for each set of documents in electronic form, including the Bid Schedule. The payment is non-refundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. postal Money Order made payable to the "Commonwealth Ports Authority".

A Pre-Bid Conference will be held at CPA, Conference Room, Tinian International Airport, at **10:00 am, FRIDAY, JUNE 29, 2012**, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this Project. All prospective Bidders are required to attend. Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to the Pre-Bid Conference.

Bid Proposals shall be submitted on the Bid Schedule form included on the CD-Rom obtained from the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all Bids submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding Bid rejection or cancellation; (c) any calculation error made in the Bid Schedule or misentry of the quantity of line items; or (d) sufficient justification exists that awarding the Project Contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said Bids if, in its sole opinion, to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

Each Bidder must supply all information required by the Bid Proposal documents and Specifications.

The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the Specifications. Bid Proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority office.

A Contractor having 50 or more employees and any subcontractor having 50 or more employees and who may be awarded a contract of Fifty Thousand Dollars ($50,000.00) or more, will be required to maintain an affirmative action program, the standards for which are contained in the Specifications. To be eligible for award, each Bidder must comply with the affirmative action requirements.

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit Bids in response to this Invitation and will not be discriminated against, on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin in consideration for an award of any Contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement.

Women will be afforded equal opportunity in all areas of employment. However, the employment of women shall not diminish the standards or requirements for employment of minorities.

Each Bid shall be accompanied by either a Bid Bond issued by a U.S. Treasury listed surety company, a Certified Check, or a Cashier's Check in an amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the Bid Price. Checks shall be made payable to the "Commonwealth Ports Authority".

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Board Chairman / Contracting Officer

Date: June 11, 2012

Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that pursuant to P.L. 15-117 a public auction will be conducted as follows:

1. General Description of Property:
   Various Electrical parts and supplies
2. Occupant of Storage Facility:
   Powersource Energy Services, Inc.
3. Name and Address of Storage Facility:
   Consolidated Transportation Services, Inc.
   REM Warehouse Building
   Lower Base, Saipan

Date, Time and Place of Sale: The sale, open to the general public, will be held on Friday, June 15, 2012, at 11:00 a.m. at the REM Warehouse Building located in Lower Base, Saipan. The property will be sold on an "as is" basis without any warranty, express or implied.

Dated this 15th day of May, 2012.

POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

/s/ Steven P. Pixley
Attorney at Law
Third Floor, TSL Plaza
Beach Road, Garapan
Tel. No.: (670) 233-2898/5175

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
GROUND MAINTENANCE SERVICES
(MOWING, TRIMMING AND CLEANING OF GROUNDS)
PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-002-12

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed proposals for ground maintenance services of the International Airport on the Island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The scope of work entails providing monthly maintenance services of the Saipan International Airport as detailed in the Scope of Work. The proposal package which includes the scope of work, evaluation factors, and draft agreement will be available at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building on Wednesday, **May 16th, 2012**. Proposers must submit all required documents listed in the scope of work. All responses to the RFP shall take into account any and all costs that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract for this project.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "**Proposal for Ground Maintenance Services (mowing, trimming and cleaning of grounds of the Saipan International Airport**"). One(1) original and two (2) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than **2:00 P.M. LOCAL TIME, June 15th, 2012**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport.

All proposals will be evaluated on the following factors: (1) available resources (funds and ground work tools and equipment) to accomplish project, (2) price, (3) similar projects completed,(4) sufficiency of workers and their categories, (5)list of pending and ongoing projects and (6) Valid CNMI Business license.

Proposer will be required to obtain insurance policies based on CPA's requirements. Copies of the insurance requirements may be obtained with the scope of work at the office of the Executive Director.

A pre-proposal meeting will be held at the CPA Conference Room, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Departure Building at 10:00 a.m., **Wednesday, May 23rd, 2012**, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. Questions must be in writing and faxed to the Executive Director's Office at (670)234-5962 or via email at cpa.admin@pticom.com at least seven (7) days prior to the pre-proposal conference.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request For Proposals: or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding proposal rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

CPA assumes no responsibilities in any act of omission on the part of offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of offeror's preparation of the proposal or supply under the contract. This RFP does not commit CPA to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services.

Offeror will be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal laws. This RFP and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CPA Procurement Regulations.

All proposals shall become the property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority. Proposals received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO Date: 5/9/2012
Executive Director

Asia

US envoy: North Korean isolation hides suffering

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—The United States is working to break an "information blockade" that allows North Korea to hide its rights abuses and keep its people away from news of the wider world, President Barack Obama's envoy on North Korean human rights said Thursday.

North Korea's media isolation means that its "deplorable human rights conditions" draw far less world attention than abuses in the Soviet Union did several decades ago, Robert King said during a speech at a rights forum in Seoul.

"Breaking the information blockade is the key to positive change in North Korea," King said. Because Pyongyang succeeds in controlling what's "flowing into, within and out of North Korea," King said, "in this era of virtually instantaneous global information, North Korea remains the most extreme example of isolation."

Animosity between the rival Koreas is high following a North Korean rocket launch in April that Washington, Seoul and others condemned as a cover for a test of banned long-range missile technology. Pyongyang, which says the launch was meant to put a satellite into orbit, has regularly accused South Korea's conservative government of trying to "hurt the dignity" of the North since Kim Jong Un took power following the December death of his father, Kim Jong Il. North Korea's military has threatened to attack Seoul and its conservative media if it doesn't receive an apology for perceived insults.

North Korea has virtually no general Internet access and severely restricts cell phone communication, King said, citing a recent information access report conducted for the State Department and based on extensive interviews with North Korean refugees.

The United States broadcasts news into North Korea, King said, in an effort to provide independent sources of information about the outside world and to "break down the isolation of the people."

Radios, which are illegal in North Korea if they can be tuned to non-state controlled stations, are the only "real-time direct source of sensitive outside news available nationwide," King said.

North Korea responds by trying to jam foreign news broadcasts, including those by U.S.- and South Korean-funded stations, according to Martyn Williams, who writes the blog NorthKoreaTech.org.

Pyongyang denies abusing its citizens' rights. but defectors say those who oppose the ruling party and state face imprisonment. Amnesty International estimates as many as 200,000 people are being held in North Korean labor camps today, based on satellite imagery and defector accounts. North Korea denies the existence of such gulags.

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT FOR

PROGRAM ASSISTANT

NMCADSV is looking for a motivated individual to join its team! We are looking for someone who is rooted in service and believes in the social justice values we uphold.

Minimum Qualifications

An agreement with NMCADSV's philosophy regarding the elimination of domestic and sexual violence
High School Diploma or Equivalent
Experience providing clerical and administrative support
Demonstrated abilities in verbal and written communication
Proficiency in MS Word and Excel
Flexible Schedule
(May be occasionally required to work evenings and weekends)
Must be able to Travel

Extra consideration will be given for the following:

1 year documented experience/work with non-profit and/or charitable organizations or volunteerism
Own transportation with a valid driver's license, insurance and registration

For a full list of duties, please stop by the NMCADSV office or email at endviolencenmi@gmail.com.
No phone inquiries, please.

Salary Range: $10.00/hr ~ $14.00/hr (based on experience)

Application Deadline and Submission Information

Resume and Cover Letter should be submitted on or before 5:00 p.m. on **Friday, June 22, 2012**.
If submitting certificates and awards, please provide a list only.
Late submissions will not be considered.

Applications can be submitted via email to endviolencenmi@gmail.com, delivered to NMCADSV's office **(between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. ONLY)** at the Spring's Plaza Building on Middle Road (north of XO Market), or mailed to NMCADSV, P.O. Box 506689, Saipan, MP 96950. (Mailed applications must be postmarked on or before the deadline.) Applicants who are invited for an interview will be asked to bring a copy of their Diploma or equivalent, Police Clearance, and a list of references.

This project is 100% supported by federal grants: Grant # 2010-AX-MU-0019 awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice and Grant # G-1101MPSDVC awarded by the Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this release are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Department of Justice or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

ASIAN BRIEFS

7 dead, 13 missing as rains hit PH

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Big waves smashed a passenger boat into rocky outcrops and sunk the vessel in stormy weather in the southwestern Philippines, killing at least five people while 54 others were rescued, officials said Wednesday. The MV *Josille 2* sank near before midnight Tuesday near an island off the resort town of El Nido in Palawan Island, said coast guard spokesman Lt. Cmdr. Armand Balilo. One of the passengers managed to contact the coast guard, sparking a search that also involved the Philippine navy and local fishermen. Rescuers plucked the bodies of three women and two men at sea, officials said. Navy Commodore Alexander Lopez said authorities were not sure how many people were on board the boat because the dead and rescued have already exceeded the manifest count of 46.

Bulldozers dig for victims of Afghan earthquakes

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Bulldozers dug through tons of rocks and dirt on Wednesday in hopes of recovering 71 victims of a landslide that occurred after two earthquakes struck in northern Afghanistan earlier this week. Two bodies have been recovered so far and 69 other people are feared dead—entombed in the rubble in Baghlan province's Burka district, Mahmood Haqmal, the spokesman for the province, said Wednesday. Wielding shovels, nearby villagers and Afghan policemen dug into the dirt alongside three bulldozers as they uncovered beams of houses crushed under the weight of the landslide.

US drone strike kills 3 in Pakistan, officials say

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (AP)—Pakistani intelligence officials say a U.S. drone strike has killed three suspected militants in an attack on a building in a town close to the Afghan border. The strike Thursday in Miran Shah in North Waziristan was the second in the region in less than 24 hours. The officials say the identities and nationalities of the men killed were not known. They didn't give their names because they were not authorized to speak to the media on the record.

Full time position available for our Saipan branch. Applicant must have good knowledge of personal computers. Position involves installing software, diagnosing common problems and also includes customer service. We can train the right applicant!

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Requirements:
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ST. JUDE RENAL CARE FACILITY, INC.

Job Vacancy Announcement

DIETITIAN (01)

This position will be under the direct supervision of the Medical Director and must be able to do the following:

- Provides comprehensive nutritional evaluation and counseling services for dialysis patients and staff.
- Provides goal oriented intervention directed toward management of ESRD disease by education of the patient in renal diet and fluid intake management.
- Maintains a close working relationship with the multi-disciplinary ESRD team of dialysis in planning for patients care and attends departmental staff meetings.
- Attends facility in-services, meetings and provides educational programs requested.
- Documents all tasks thoroughly in patient's medical records to maintain dietary records and statistics.
- Establishes yearly goals with Medical Director/Unit manager in relations to specialty program/service.
- Assists in the development, implementation and evaluation of dietary policies and procedures.
- Initiates and/or participates in patient education and treatment programs, such as developing dietary educational materials.
- Participates in professional and other community organizations and activities serving clientele.
- Performs all other duties as assigned.

Education/Experience:
- Holds a baccalaureate or advance degree in food and nutrition or dietetics.
- Has at least one year experience in clinic nutrition.
- Good interpersonal/communication skills.
- Must comply with the law and regulations of the state dietary or nutritional licensing body.

Please submit resume or pick-up application at Saipan Health Clinic, at Chalan Kiya or send email to Connie Aldan or Judy Arriola at hpcshc@pticom.com.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
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Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.mp

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

CORPORATE DIRECTOR (UNGRADED)

Opening Date: June 18, 2012 **Closing Date:** July 6, 2012
Job Location: NMHC Central Office, Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950
Salary: $70,000 per annum – Commensurate with education and experience.

Detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be picked up during working hours at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

All applicants must complete and **submit a cover letter together with the NMHC Employment Application Form AND required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification.**

NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.

Applicants are requested to submit their original cover letter, application and supporting documents to the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, no later than 4:30 p.m., Friday, July 6, 2012, **OR MAILED AND POSTMARKED** no later than Friday, July 6, 2012, to the Chairwoman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

For inquiries, please contact Ms. Jocelyn S. Kaipat, Office Manager at (670) 234-9447/7689 or by email to jskaipat@nmhcgov.net NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/ MARCIE M. TOMOKANE
Chairwoman of the Board

NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender, and employer.

World

Syria overruns rebellious village, violence spikes

BEIRUT (AP)—Syrian forces overran a mountain enclave near the Mediterranean coast Wednesday, seizing the territory back from rebels as a serious escalation in violence signaled both sides are using more powerful weapons.

With the bloodshed ramping up, France joined the U.N. peacekeeping chief in declaring Syria was in a state of civil war.

"When many groups belonging to the same people tear each other apart and kill each other, if you can't call it a civil war, then there are no words to describe it," French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius told a news conference in Paris.

The battle for Haffa, in the mountains of Latakia province, raged for eight days as regime forces shelled the village to drive out rebels. The operation apparently was part of a larger offensive to retake areas that had fallen into rebel hands.

State television said regime forces had "cleansed" Haffa of "armed terrorist groups" and the Foreign Ministry urged U.N. observers to immediately head there "to check what the terrorist groups have done."

It wasn't immediately clear whether the U.N. observers would be able to reach Haffa. On Tuesday, an angry crowd hurled rocks and sticks at the U.N. mission's vehicles, forcing them to turn back. None of the observers was hurt.

Sausan Ghosheh, a spokeswoman for the observers, said they have been trying to reach Haffa since June 7.

Hundreds of rebel fighters believed to have been holed up in Haffa and nearby villages pulled out overnight, said Rami Abdul-Rahman, director of the British-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, citing a network of activists on the ground.

On another front, fireballs of orange flames exploded over the central city of Homs, where Syrian forces fired a continuous rain of shells that slammed into the rebel-held neighborhoods of Khaldiyeh, Jouret al-Shayyah and the old city.

Recovering Haffa was particularly significant to the regime because the town is about 20 miles (30 kilometers) from President Bashar Assad's hometown. Latakia province is the heartland of the Alawite minority to which Assad and the ruling elite belong.

As the violence spiked, both sides in the conflict appeared to be using heavier weapons.

U.N. observers reported Syrian helicopters were firing on Haffa and other restive areas, and amateur videos posted online by activists suggest the opposition is using powerful anti-tank missiles.

"There are arms being delivered, and on both sides," Fabius said.

Although the Syrian rebels are outgunned by the well-armed Syrian army, weapons have been flowing across the country's borders from neighboring Turkey, Iraq and Lebanon. The rebels also say they buy weapons from Syrian soldiers looking to make a profit.

Tensions over the issue flared Wednesday between the U.S. and Russia as they traded blame for the violence in Syria.

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton held to her explosive accusation that the "latest information" in U.S. hands is that Russia is sending attack helicopters to Assad's regime. Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov fired back by alleging the U.S. has sent military support to the region.

"We have repeatedly urged the Russian government to cut these military ties completely and to suspend all further support and deliveries," Clinton told reporters in Washington. "We know, because they confirm, that they continue to deliver and we believe that the situation is spiraling toward civil war. It is now time for everyone in the international community, including Russia ... to speak to Assad in unified voice and insist that the violence stop."

Lavrov rejected the charge, saying his government was completing earlier weapons contracts with Syria for air defense systems to be used exclusively for self defense against "an armed attack from the outside."

"We are not supplying either to Syria or anywhere else things that are used in fighting with peaceful demonstrators, in contrast to the United States, which regularly supplies such special means to countries in the region," Lavrov said during a trip to Iran.

Russia has emerged as Syria's most important ally and protector, blocking strong action at the U.N. Security Council and speaking against any foreign military intervention.

Moscow's pro-Syria stance is motivated in part by its strategic and defense ties to Damascus, including weapons sales.

British Foreign Secretary William Hague also said weapons were flowing to both sides and called on Russia to halt supplying arms to the Assad regime.

"We have seen signs—rather anecdotal signs—of an increased availability of arms to the opposition," he said during a trip to Afghanistan. "And so this is a deteriorated situation where Russia has an important responsibility due to its relationship with Syria and its position on the Security Council."

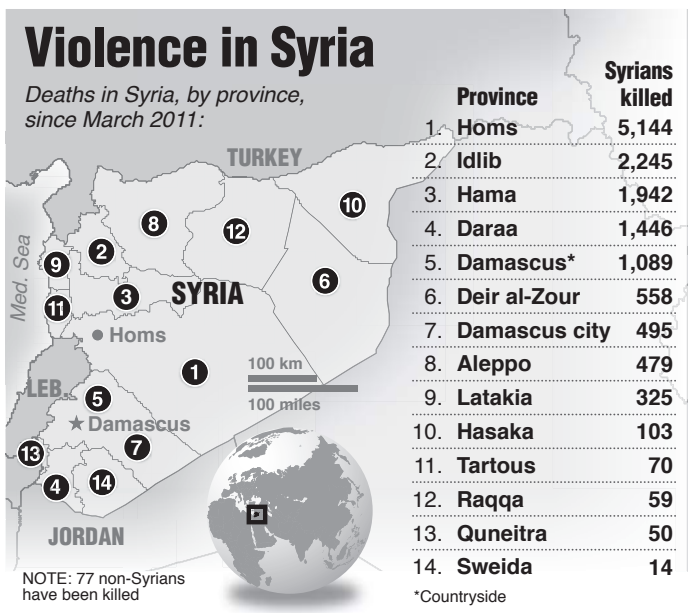
Russia's stance is coming under deeper scrutiny now that the conflict is looking more like civil war every day. France's statement that Syria was in a civil war echoed a similar statement by U.N. peacekeeping chief Herve Ladsous on Tuesday.

Syria's Foreign Ministry expressed "astonishment" over the claims Wednesday.

"Syria is not witnessing a civil war but rather an armed conflict to uproot terrorism and confront killings, kidnappings, bombings ... and other brutal acts," the ministry said.

Syrian authorities characterize rebels as terrorists and armed gangsters, and the uprising as a foreign plot to destabilize the country.

On Wednesday, a roadside explosion hit a convoy of aid workers in northwest Syria, causing three people to suffer minor injuries, the International Committee of the Red Cross said.



DEATH & FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

For Our Beloved

†JOYLINA LYNN KAIPAT ALDAN

Born to life June 19, 1977
called to her eternal life JUNE 10, 2012

In her new life, she now joins her:

Paternal Grandparents: Lucio Castro Aldan & Francisca Ogo Dela Cruz Aldan
Maternal Grandparents: Mariano Borja Kaipat & Guadalupe Matagolai Litulumar Kaipat
Mother In-Law: Antonia Fitipol Castro
Uncles: Antonio Kaipat, Francisco Kaipat, Daniel Kaipat
Aunties: Joaquina Ada, Aurora Kaipat, Maria Kaipat, Carina Aldan, Maria Taitano, Paulina Sablan
Sister In-Law: Lorenza Fitipol

Her memories will forever live in the hearts of her:

Common Law Husband: Augustin Fitipol Castro
Son: Toby Justin Castro
Reared Children: Cassandra T. Kaipat, Zachary C. Aldan, Zasha C. Aldan, Zodeanna C. Aldan, Kaeana Norita, Zavannah C. Aldan
Parents: Tobias Dela Cruz Aldan & Clotilde Kaipat Aldan
Father in Law: Luis Pangelinan Castro
Brothers/Sisters & In-Laws:
Scott Castro Bluweet *(Scott Jr, Kaylani, Angela) - South Dakota*
Jerome Kaipat Aldan *(Zachary, Zasha, Zavannah, Zodeanna),*
Jennifer Kaipat Aldan & Dennis Laniyo Norita *(Kaeana, Daena)*
Tobias Jr. Kaipat Aldan & Mercedes Litulumar *(Silayoóng, Sammy, Scottie, Gretha-Leigh)*
Rockson Aldan Hockett *(Marcyana, Rocco) - Arizona*
Jocelyn Aldan Kapileo & Kevin Taitano Kapileo
Brothers/Sisters In-Laws:
Jovita Fitipol/Willie Aguilar *(Lorraine, Dorraine, Willie Jr., AJ, Kimiko, Luisa)*
Vicente/Kazuko Fitipol *(Bj, Ricky)*
Isidro/Leticia Castro *(Dorsida, Ignacio, Isidro Jr, Dorisha)-Washington*
Allen Castro/Claudine Kapileo *(Jonya, Lorrie, Ayleen, Aldin, Elektra)*
Crispin/Naoko Castro *(Ignacio, Christine, Naomi)*
James Castro *(Joseph, James Jr.)*
Viola Castro/Ernest Romolor *(Antonia, Jesse, Abriola, Linsa)*
Santiago Castro/Christine Justino

Daily Mass of Intentions is being celebrated at Kristo Rai Church at 6:00 AM. Holy Rosary is being prayed each evening at 7:30 PM at the family residence in Garapan, Adilanto LP, Paganville.

On Sunday June 17, 2012 her remains will be taken from CHC Morgue to the family residence in Garapan, at 4:00PM. Bella will be at 12midnight.On the following day, Monday, June 18, 2012, funeral cortege will leave the family residence at 10:30AM and will be escorted to Kristo Rai Church. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00AM followed immediately by interment services at Mt. Carmel Cemetery.

Please Join Us In Prayers

The Family

Off the Wall

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Ariz. asks for haikus to promote dust storm safety

PHOENIX (AP)—Arizona transportation officials are getting the message out about dust storm safety—in precisely 17 syllables. The Arizona Department of Transportation is encouraging Twitter users to tweet haikus around the theme safe driving in haboobs—severe dust storms that hit Phoenix in the summer. An example, from Phoenix resident Mindy Lee, who goes by the Twitter handle mindyblee: "Haboobs blow through town / In one instant it is dark / Pull over and wait." Transportation department spokesman Timothy Tait says the agency was looking for a creative way to engage residents in its "Pull Aside Stay Alive" campaign. So far they've seen more than 30 entries and are re-tweeting some of the best ones.

Arkansas vet seeks home for goose named 50 Cent

MOUNTAIN HOME, Ark. (AP) -- The goose 50 Cent is on the mend. Named for the rapper who survived nine gunshot wounds, 50 Cent the waterfowl now needs a new home. The goose was brought into a northern Arkansas animal hospital with a damaged wing. Veterinarian Rob Conner says an X-ray revealed the goose had been shot seven times with a pellet gun. Conner operated on the bird's wing, inserting a metal rod and plastic tube to help the bird heal. Conner tells The Baxter Bulletin that workers initially wanted to name the goose Tupac, after the late rapper, but that they settled on 50 Cent because he recovered from his shooting.

Police: W. Pa. man blamed dog for apartment arson

LILLY, Pa. (AP)—A western Pennsylvania man who blamed his dog for causing an apartment fire has been jailed on charges that he set the blaze himself. The Tribune-Democrat of Johnstown reports Wednesday that Cresson Township police have charged 58-year-old John Saparo with setting the July 12 fire, though police have yet to specify how. What police did say is that they've determined the fire didn't start the way Saparo claimed. He allegedly told officers he was cleaning and had several fans running when his dog knocked over one of the fans, which, somehow, started the fire.

Bear chased off after wandering into Alaska school

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)—Authorities say a bear had to be chased away after wandering into an Anchorage, Alaska, high school. Police say the small black bear on Wednesday wandered into Bartlett High School—home of the Golden Bears—through a door left open for construction workers. School is out for the summer at Bartlett so no students were in the building at the time. But the Anchorage Daily News reports some staff were there and had to be evacuated. Police responded and searched the school for the bear. They found clues like knocked-over trash cans that contained food. Eventually officers began banging on doors to scare the bear. It did the trick, and the animal ran outside, into the nearby woods. The bear may have felt welcome at Bartlett High. Besides having bears as a mascot, the school has a large bruin painted on the side.

In Celebration of His New Life

†Crispin Matagolai Kaipat

Lovingly Known as "Cris" or "Poppa"
December 18, 1952 – June 10, 2012

Was called to his Eternal rest at the age of 59 (at the Guam US Naval Hospital).

In His New Life, He now joins His:

Parents: The Honorable Francisco Borja Kaipat & Matilde Matagolai Kaipat
Brother: Saturnino Matagolai Kaipat
Mother-In-Law: Sabina Pangelinan Delos Reyes
Brother-In-Law: Jesus Perez Concepcion
Nephew: Paul DLR. Concepcion

His memories will live on forever in the hearts and minds of his :

Wife: Magdalena "Maggie" Delos Reyes Kaipat
Children: Shawn DLR. Kaipat (Emy); Tatiana DLR. Kaipat
Brothers/Sisters & In-Laws: Dora K. & Bill Sablan Reyes; Ando M. Kaipat; Cinta M. Kaipat; Viol M. Kaipat; Gus M. Kaipat; Cil K. & Dave Magofna Selepeo; Ken "Bud" M. & Mary Santos Kaipat; Frances M. Kaipat
Sister-In-Law: Narcisa DLR. Concepcion & children
Reared Children: Jessica & Rebecca DLR. Concepcion; Del R. Lieto (Lee); Francella K. Reyes; Byron S. Kaipat (Mona); Tyra & Tyron K. Tanaka; Delton R. Lieto
Reared Brothers/Sisters & In-Laws: Guillermo M. & Ignacia "Ghaling" Taisacan Saures; Joe M. & Lek Kaipat; Elvaristo M. & Lillyjean S. Igisomar; Dolores Saures & Jacob T. Lizama

He is additionally survived by numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, godchildren & relatives.

Nightly Rosary is being said at 7:30PM at his residence on Adobo Drive, Koblerville. His remains will arrive from Guam on Friday, June 15, 2012 at 9:00AM and will be escorted to the Borja Funeral Home. Rosary and viewing will follow.

At 4:00PM on Sunday, June 17, 2012, his remains will be escorted from the Borja Funeral Home to his residence. Rosary will be said at 7:00PM followed by Responso.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Monday, June 18, 2012 at the Mt. Carmel Cathedral at 2:00PM, followed by Interment Services at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

Your thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated.
Olomwaay, Si Yu'us Ma'ase and Thank You.

From the Wife, Children & Family

Science & Technology

Expanding the Internet address system

NEW YORK (AP) — Proposals for Internet addresses ending in ".pizza," ".space" and ".auto" are among the nearly 2,000 submitted as part of the largest expansion in the online address system.

Apple Inc., Sony Corp. and American Express Co. are among companies that sought names with their brands. Google Inc. and Amazon.com Inc. sought dozens of names, including ".app," and ".play." The wine company Gallo Vineyards Inc. wants ".barefoot."

The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers announced the proposals for Internet suffixes, the ".com" part of an Internet address, Wednesday. They now go through a review process that could take months or years.

Here are some questions and answers regarding plans to expand the Internet address system:

Q. What are domain names?

A. Think of them as shortcuts for navigating the Internet. Just as it's easier to find the Empire State Building at 350 Fifth Avenue in Manhattan rather than through its GPS coordinates, it's easier to type in "google.com" rather than remember "173.194.79.99." Google and other search engines have reduced the need for domain names. But these search engines are essentially catalogs of the Internet, and they depend on the domain name to take you to what you're looking for. Also, domain names aren't used only for websites. The part after the "at" symbol in email addresses is the domain name.

Q. How many domain names are there?

A. There are millions of domain names including "bbc.co.uk" and "microsoft.com." If you're just thinking of the suffix, formally known as the top-level domain name, there are currently 313. The most popular is ".com," with about 100 million names registered. Anybody willing to pay $10 or less a year can get one. Others are restricted to certain groups, including ".aero" for the aviation industry and ".edu" for U.S. colleges and universities. The bulk of the suffixes are two-letter designations for countries and territories, such as ".fr" for France and ".aq" for Antarctica. Some countries also have suffixes in their native languages, so websites in China can use the Chinese equivalent of China rather than ".cn."

Q. Is the list static?

A. Suffixes come and go. The European Union gained ".eu," while Midway Islands and other U.S. minor outlying islands lost ".um." Following East Timor's independence, ".tp" became ".tl." A handful of others got added over the years, including ".biz" for businesses and ".xxx" for porn sites. Now, suffixes will be added more broadly—up to 1,000 a year.

Q. Who decides these things?

A. ICANN is in charge of domain name policies. The U.S. government, which funded much of the Internet's early development, delegated the task to the group in 1998. ICANN is a nonprofit organization with headquarters in California and has board members from around the world, though the Commerce Department retains limited oversight of the group.

Q. How does a company or group get a new suffix?

A. The application period closed on May 30. Bidders had to pay a fee of $185,000. They also have to make a 10-year commitment and pay annual fees of at least $25,000 if they win. The money will pay for ICANN's costs setting up the system, reviewing applications and making sure parties do what they have promised once the suffix is operational. Some of the money will be set aside for potential lawsuits from unsuccessful applicants and others.

Companies and groups that didn't apply for a suffix will likely have another chance in a year or two. ICANN plans to take proposals again after it finishes reviewing the current round, although it has announced no specifics.

Q. How will new suffixes affect average Internet users?

A. They could expand the dwindling number of easy-to-remember names. A florist called Apple can't use "apple.com" because the computer company has it. Previously, the shop might have registered a longer, clunky address. If ".flowers" gets approved—there are four bidders for it—that shop could go for "apple.flowers."

2 innovators share $1.5 million technology prize

HELSINKI (AP)—Two leading international innovators, Linus Torvalds and Shinya Yamanaka, have shared this year's (EURO)1.2 million ($1.5 million) Millennium Technology Prize.

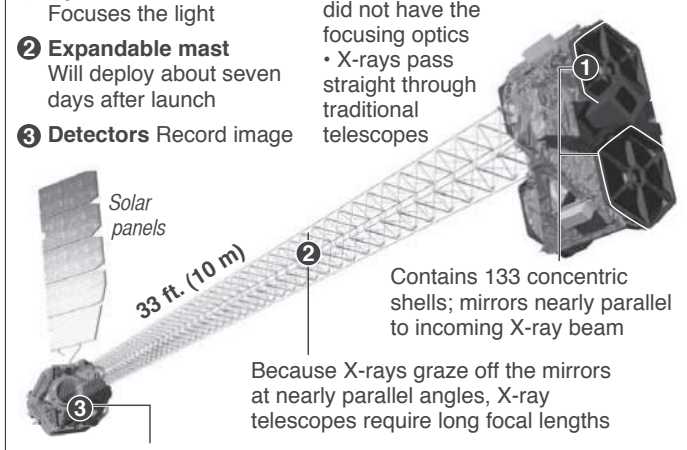
Torvalds, a Finnish-American, was presented the prize for creating the Linux kernel, an open source operating system used in millions of computers. Yamanaka, from Japan, was cited for his discovery of a new method to develop stem cells, which has helped scientists in medical research.

Finnish President Sauli Niinisto presented the prize to the two winners in Helsinki on Wednesday.

The Finnish government and local industry initiated the biennial award in 2004. Previous winners include Japan's Shuji Nakamura for inventions in laser technology and LED lighting, and Tim Berners-Lee for inventing the World Wide Web.

Finding black holes

The Nuclear Spectroscopic Telescope Array will study black holes, the remains of exploded stars and other high-energy cosmic objects.


Extraordinary telescope
1 Optics, mirrors Focuses the light
2 Expandable mast Will deploy about seven days after launch
3 Detectors Record image
Others fell short
• Previous telescopes did not have the focusing optics
• X-rays pass straight through traditional telescopes
Solar panels
33 ft. (10 m)
Contains 133 concentric shells; mirrors nearly parallel to incoming X-ray beam
Because X-rays graze off the mirrors at nearly parallel angles, X-ray telescopes require long focal lengths
Light from telescope focused
Clear view
BEFORE
INTEGRAL telescope image
NuSTAR simulated image
Two year mission
• Study black holes in other galaxies and at the heart of the Milky Way galaxy
• Locate remnants of collapsed stars
• Map historic supernova remnants
• Observe high-energy gamma-ray sources
Source: NASA
Graphic: Melina Yingling
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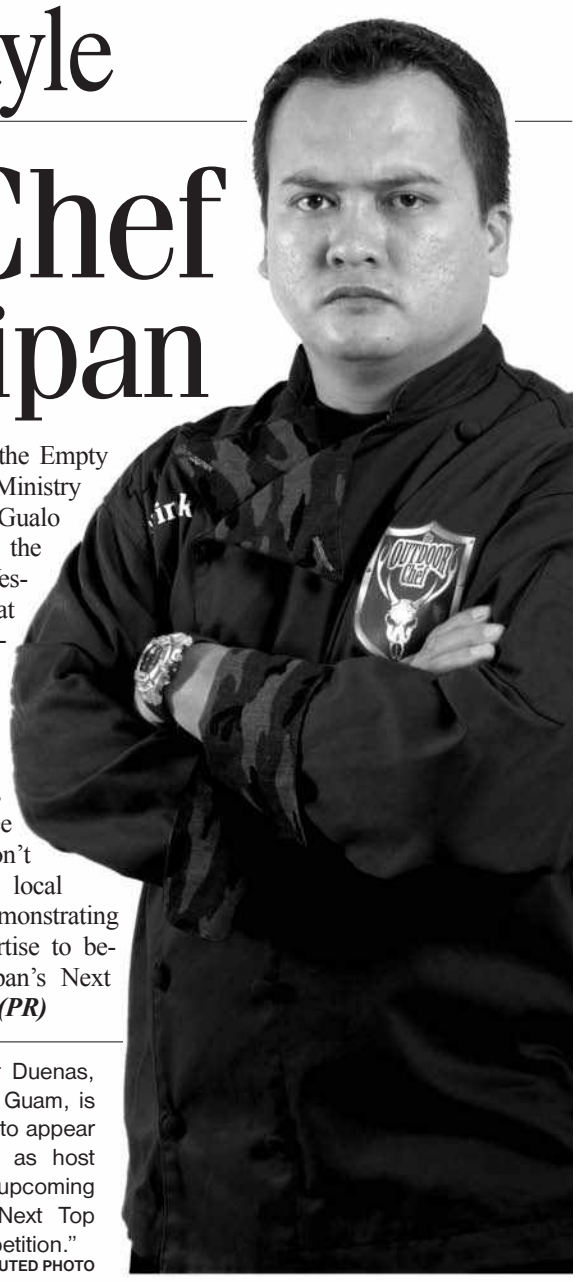
Life & Style

The Outdoor Chef is coming to Saipan



Chef Peter Duenas, a native of Guam, is scheduled to appear on Saipan as host of the upcoming "Saipan's Next Top Chef Competition."

Chef Duenas was formally trained at Century Culinary School in San Diego, California, where he received a degree in Occupational Studies and Hospitality Management. With 20 years of culinary experience in Classical French, Italian, Mediterranean, and Asian cuisines, Chef Peter now features Chamoru Fusion Cuisine in his restaurants on Guam.

Saipan's Next Top Chef fundraiser will be held at the Pacific Islands Club on Saturday, July 28, 2012, at 2pm to 4pm. Major sponsors include the Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation, PIC Saipan, Joeten Enterprises, and Certified Angus Beef.

Five contestants will be competing for third, second, and the Grand Prize awards. An exciting raffle draw plus entertainment from the awesome mime group from Life in the Son Church and Ataktak Dancers will also be part of the fundraising event.

Contact the following organizers for tickets to the event: Vicky Benavente vickybenavente@gmail.com, 237-5103; Shelli Neal shellineal@gmail.com, 287-2368; Rose Smith roseevm@yahoo.com, 483-0162.

Tickets may also be purchased at the Empty Vessel Ministry Office in Gualo Rai and the Empty Vessel booth at the Garapan Street Market on Thursdays.

This is a must-see event. Don't miss our local talents demonstrating their expertise to become Saipan's Next Top Chef. ***(PR)***

Chef Peter Duenas, a native of Guam, is scheduled to appear on Saipan as host of the upcoming "Saipan's Next Top Chef Competition."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Metallica helps FBI in trying to catch Va. killer

WASHINGTON (AP)—Metallica has recorded a public service video as part of a law enforcement publicity blitz to try to catch a man wanted in the death of a Virginia Tech student who disappeared after leaving one of the heavy metal band's concerts.

Composite sketches of the suspect will be featured at bus shelters and on digital billboards up and down the East Coast, and a video on the Internet from lead singer James Hetfield urges people to come forward with tips and to contact police if they think they recognize the man. The FBI and Virginia State Police announced the campaign on Wednesday.

"Remember, any information—no matter how small you might think it is—could be that crucial piece investigators need to help solve the case," Hetfield says in the video, which appears on YouTube and an FBI website dedicated to the case.

Morgan Harrington, a 20-year-old aspiring teacher and Virginia Tech student, disappeared while attending an October 2009 concert in Charlottesville, Va. Her skeletal remains were discovered about three months later in a remote hay field about 10 miles from the concert venue.

Police have said Harrington became separated from friends after she left the concert early and was denied re-entry to the arena. She was last seen hitchhiking that night. Her T-shirt was found outside an apartment building near the Charlottesville auditorium, but a camera and a crystal necklace she had with her were missing.

Tom Cruise receives Friars Icon award in NY

NEW YORK (AP)—The Friars Club, best known for searing celebrity roasts, held the insults when it toasted Tom Cruise.

The actor received the fourth ever Friars Club Entertainment Icon Award on Tuesday night, placing him in the same company as Douglas Fairbanks, Cary Grant and Frank Sinatra.

Fresh off a whirlwind week of premieres for "Rock of Ages," the actor, who turns 50 next month, said he's amazed his career is still going so strong.

"I was hoping. After my first film I remember thinking I just wanted the opportunity to do it again. And I didn't know whether I was going to have it again and so to be doing this now; it's kind of amazing to me," he said on the red carpet.

Cruise had been slated to receive the award from Jerry Lewis, but the comedian had a health scare just before the ceremony. Lewis' publicist said Wednesday that he was OK after being hospitalized overnight for low blood sugar.

AP

Actor Tom Cruise poses after being honored by The Friars Club and Friars Foundation at The Waldorf-Astoria on Tuesday June 12, 2012, in New York.

Alec Baldwin presided at the Waldorf-Astoria, where speakers included such former co-stars as Cuba Gooding Jr. and Kevin Pollak. Robin Thicke and Corinne Rae Bailey were among the musical performers.

Many had stories about working with Cruise. Baldwin joked that any time he finds himself taking on too many tasks at once, he hums the theme from "Mission: Impossible." Pollak, who appeared with Cruise in "A Few Good Men," remembered being in awe of the "unusually large and perfect pen" Cruise used for marking his script. The actor soon had a pen sent to Pollak's trailer, then sent him a second one when Pollak worried about losing the first.

The capper: Pollak still carries one of the pens with him and showed it off to the crowd.

Cruise said during his acceptance speech that his wife, actress Katie Holmes, was out of the country. But he did bring their 6-year-old daughter, Suri, who not only got to stay up late, but to take in an R-rated tribute in keeping with the Friars tradition of blue humor. Gooding cracked a couple of shower jokes, Pollak made some suggestive comments about the size of Cruise's pen and when he made a reference to "banging," he didn't mean on a drum. A few f-bombs were dropped, notably a barrage on film by Cruise during a highlight reel of his career, a reel that featured Cruise kissing Cameron Diaz, Renee Zellweger and other leading ladies.

Numerous plugs were worked in for "Rock of Ages," coming out Friday. Baldwin co-stars with Cruise, and the ceremony included a performance by the cast of the Broadway musical on which the film is based.

From Manhattan, Cruise heads with his family to Iceland, where he'll celebrate Father's Day while filming "Oblivion."

"Well usually we just hang out, you know maybe we go for a family hike or something," said Cruise, who said his kids usually make him something by hand. "The kids go all out on stuff like that and that means the most to me."

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NOW SHOWING

Rock of Ages
Friday and Saturday 1:25 4:25 7:25 10:05
Sunday thru Thursday 1:25 4:25 7:25
Tom Cruise, Diego Boneta, Russell Brand
Musical • Rated PG 13

Synopsis
Two love-struck dreamers fall in love during the heights of the hair-metal scene as they navigate the seedy world of drugs, mullets, and stripping while at a club on the Sunset Strip in this adaptation of the hit off-Broadway musical. Barry Munday's Chris D'Arienzo adapts his own stage book and handles direction duties for the New Line production.

Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted
Friday and Saturday 1:15 4:15 7:15 9:30
Sunday thru Thursday 1:15 4:15 7:15
Ben Stiller, Chris Rock, David Schwimmer
Children's/family • Rated PG

Synopsis
The third entry in the Madagascar franchise finds the tightknit group of animals joining a traveling circus in order to get back home. Noah Baumbach provides the script, with Eric Darnell handling director duties. Ben Stiller, Chris Rock, David Schwimmer, Jada Pinkett Smith, and Sacha Baron Cohen reprise the voice roles, with Frances McDormand stepping in as the villain.

Prometheus
Friday and Saturday 1:30 4:30 7:30 10:00
Sunday thru Thursday 1:30 4:30 7:30
Noomi Rapace, Michael Fassbender
Science Fiction • Rated R

Snow White and The Huntsman
Friday and Saturday 1:05 4:05 7:05 9:35
Sunday thru Thursday 1:05 4:05 7:05
Kristen Stewart, Chris Hemsworth
Fantasy • Rated PG 13

Men In Black 3
Friday and Saturday 1:20 4:20 7:20 9:45
Sunday thru Thursday 1:20 4:20 7:20
Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones
Comedy • Rated PG 13

Battleship
Friday and Saturday 1:00 4:00 7:00 9:50
Sunday thru Thursday 1:00 4:00 7:00
Liam Neeson, Taylor Kitsch
Science fiction, War • Rated PG 13

Marvel's The Avengers
Friday and Saturday 1:10 4:10 7:10 9:55
Sunday thru Thursday 1:10 4:10 7:10
Robert Downey, Jr., Chris Evans, Samuel L. Jackson
Action • Rated PG 13

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Michelle Obama joins Pinterest, pins family photos

WASHINGTON (AP)—Michelle Obama is up on Pinterest.

The first lady's profile on the social networking site went live Wednesday with three boards highlighting photos from around the White House, "great memories" and Father's Day.

Mrs. Obama captioned some of the photos herself, including recent shots of the Obama family skipping stones and playing minigolf, and older family photos including a wedding day picture.

By midmorning, Mrs. Obama had more than 1,600 followers on the site. Pinterest is particularly popular with women, and represents one more tool for reaching out to voters in an election year.

Ann Romney, the wife of Obama's GOP rival Mitt Romney, joined Pinterest in February.

Courteney Cox asks court to drop Arquette name

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Courteney Cox Arquette is seeking to legally drop her husband's name once the former couple's divorce is finalized.

The actress included the request in a response to estranged husband David Arquette's divorce filing. Records show both actors filed their paperwork within a minute of each other Friday.

Both cite irreconcilable differences as the reason for the end of their 12-year marriage, and both are seeking custody of their 8-year-old daughter.

Arquette and Cox are representing themselves in the proceedings. They announced their separation in October 2010, but both listed in court records Dec. 31, 2011, as their official separation date.

The pair met on the set of the film "Scream" in 1996 and married three years later.

Cox's filing was first reported Wednesday by celebrity website TMZ.

AP

This June 28, 2011 file photo originally released by InStyle, David Arquette, left, and Courteney Cox attend the Beau Joie Champagne Art Of Elysium Dinner hosted by Rachel Bilson and held at Arquette's home in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Streep presents Davis with Women in Film award

AP

This Tuesday, June 12, 2012 photo shows actresses Meryl Streep, left, and Viola Davis at the Women In Film Crystal + Lucy Awards at the Beverly Hilton Hotel in Beverly Hills, Calif.

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—They may have been Oscar rivals earlier this year, but there's nothing but love between Meryl Streep and Viola Davis.

Streep, who ended Davis' awards run for "The Help" by winning the lead actress Oscar for "The Iron Lady," lauded her friend and colleague Tuesday at Women in Film's annual Crystal + Lucy Awards.

She called Davis "a lionhearted woman" and a gifted and determined actress who studied at Juilliard, won Tony Awards and captivated Hollywood with her eight-minute performance in "Doubt."

"She was a newcomer at 45," Streep joked.

Davis returned the love as she accepted the award.

"I have a confession," she said, sharing how touched she was when Streep sent her a card after the film wrapped. Davis also kept a photo of the two of them together on set.

"OK Meryl, I framed the card," Davis said. "So you can never come over to the house."

Other honorees at the private ceremony at the Beverly Hilton Hotel were actresses Christina Applegate and Chloe Grace Moretz, NBCUniversal Cable chief Bonnie Hammer, cinematographer Anette Haellmigk and five female executives from Fox.

Rome: Question bringing 'beat your wife' line fair

Jim Rome says he thought he was asking a "softball question" about the NBA draft lottery that led Commissioner David Stern to ask the radio host if he had stopped beating his wife.

Rome asked Stern whether the lottery was fixed. The New Orleans Hornets, recently sold by the league to Saints owner Tom Benson, won the No. 1 pick.

Stern responded that it wasn't, and after some debate over the legitimacy of the question, Stern said: "Have you stopped beating your wife yet?"

Rome said later Wednesday on his TV show on CBS Sports Network that he didn't take great offense, calling Stern's phrase a "rhetorical device" that some fans may not understand but he did. He defended his question, saying he doesn't believe the lottery is fixed but that it was fair to ask.

'Suits' star Gabriel Macht's wife to join series

AP

This Nov. 4, 2010 file photo shows actors Gabriel Macht, left, and his wife, actress Jacinda Barrett at the premiere of the film "Love & Other Drugs" on the opening night of American Film Institute's AFI Fest 2010 in Los Angeles.

NEW YORK (AP)—"Suits" is bringing in a new skirt.

Gabriel Macht says his wife, Jacinda Barrett, has an arc in the show's second season, which premieres Thursday on the USA Network.

Macht plays hotshot litigator Harvey Specter in the dramedy. He hires Mike Ross, played by Patrick J. Adams, as his associate even though he knows Ross lacks a law degree, and then both try to hide that from the firm.

In an interview Wednesday with The Associated Press, Macht said Barrett is playing Zoe, a trial expert who has a history with Specter. He says she's called in when Specter is accused of burying trial evidence.

Macht calls the characters a "potential romantic pair" and says viewers learn why it didn't work out. He also says Zoe puts the egotistical, womanizing Specter "in his place."

Mother is crushed when girl of her dreams dumps her son

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I need to get something off my chest. My son and his wonderful—or so I thought—girlfriend, just broke up. OK, she dumped him. Out of the blue, with no warning, she slept with another guy and the next day she told my son it was over.

I am devastated! This is a girl I LOVED. He hadn't proposed yet, but my son wanted to marry her. She was going to be my daughter-in-law, the mother of my grandchildren—holidays, birthdays, weekends in the park, the beach, our house, their house, the whole nine yards.

Now I don't know who has cried more, me or my son. I know it's none of my business and I have to let these two kids work it out for themselves if there is anything salvageable. But Abby, I'm hurting too.

I'm so tired of people telling me I have "no right" to have an opinion about this, much less express it. I don't want to call her yet, but maybe someday I'd like to just say I'm sorry this happened. I'm disappointed and would at least like to say goodbye.

I can't believe I'm never going to see her again. If somehow, by the grace of God, they can put this back together, I will forever keep my mouth shut, but in the meantime, I'm just sitting here...

A BROKEN-HEARTED MOM

DEAR MOM: Clearly you are hurting, and I'm sorry for it. But young love can be unpredictable, and it's obvious that your son's girlfriend wasn't ready for the kind of future you have fantasized about.

If you're smart you will start thinking about this with your head rather than your heart. While what happened is extremely disappointing it could have been worse. She could have been married to your son and the mother of your grandchildren when she slept with another man and decided to bolt. Be grateful she wasn't.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I'm a contented, widowed, retired elementary school teacher. I live in the same condo complex as my fraternal twin sister and her seventh husband. She has always been a cougar—never satisfied with what she has. She's attractive and looks 15 years younger than her age.

For almost a year she has been pen pals with a handsome man 30 years her junior. They exchange naughty nude photos and have phone sex. She likes the fantasy, but he wants it to become reality by flying across country for a long, steamy weekend. It's inevitable that this will happen. I worry for her safety. She says she can handle it. What should I do, if anything?

NEVER CEASES TO AMAZE ME

DEAR AMAZED: I can understand your concern, however, your sister is well past the age of 21. From your description of her history she has been around this block many times. She knows the territory. If I were you, I'd worry less about her safety and more about HIS.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: Is it appropriate to visit a house you grew up in years ago and expect to be treated to a tour? Should one expect the current owners to accept you and invite you into the house, which is now theirs? How is this handled?

MOVED ON IN TAMPA

DEAR MOVED ON: If one is smart, one does not EXPECT anything from strangers because it suggests a feeling of entitlement. Chances of being allowed inside would be better if the homeowner was given some advance notice, like a short note explaining that you were raised in that home and asking if you could be admitted. That's how I'd handle it.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

THIS TOWN JUST AIN'T BIG ENOUGH FER THE BOTH OF US!
YEP, I RECKON WE'LL HAVE TO ANNEX PART O' THE COUNTY!
MOM WON'T LET US PLAY WITH GUNS.
I GET TO BE THE ZONING BOARD!

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

WHAT ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT YOUR BIRTHDAY FOR, GARFIELD? CATS HAVE NINE LIVES!
AWW...FEEL BETTER NOW?
I LOVE YOU, LIZ
YOU'RE A GOOD LIAR
JIM DAVIS 6-15

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

THANKS FOR A GREAT PARTY, DADDY.
YOU'RE WELCOME, HONEY. I'M SO PROUD OF YOU.
PROUD OF ME? WHY?
YOU'RE A SMART, FUNNY AND KIND LITTLE GIRL.
NOW, WOULD YOU HELP ME CLEAN UP?
SURE!
WAS I JUST SET UP?

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

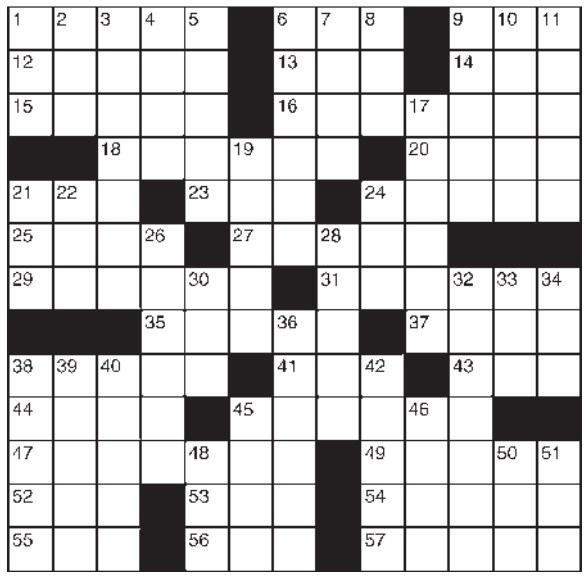
ACROSS
1 Throws
6 Golfer Ernie
9 Recipe meas.
12 Actress Sevigny
13 Diving bird
14 Greek H
15 Memorial rockpile
16 Straw hat
18 Wee
20 Chooses
21 Drone
23 Noshed
24 Got up
25 Raw minerals
27 Refrain syllables
29 Madden
31 Diminish
35 Miami stop on the PGA tour
37 "Get lost!"
38 Decorative novelty
41 Prune
43 B&B
44 Change for a five
45 Stuff tossed overboard
47 Michael Phelps, e.g.
49 Wit
52 Coffee break hour
53 Favorite
54 "Rolling in the Deep" singer
55 Billboards
56 Storefront sign abbr.
57 Overcaffeinated

DOWN
1 Junk bond rating
2 "Eureka!"
3 Thinner
4 Ms. Spelling
5 Cathartic drug
6 Time for an egg roll?
7 Darth's kid
8 Tackle moguls
9 Beat
10 Undoes deles
11 Analyze grammar
17 Swamp
19 Say
21 Weeding need
22 Grecian vessel
24 Hearty brew
26 Cruelty
28 Apportion
30 Stickum
32 Shine softly
33 A billion years
34 Rouen refusal
36 Warnings
38 — Rica
39 Single
40 Jockey's handful
42 "Poppycock!"
45 Scoff
46 German car
48 Speedometer stat
50 Bullring bravo
51 Crimson

Solution time: 25 mins.

D	I	A	L	■	D	I	M	■	M	I	S	T
A	N	N	A	■	I	R	E	■	U	N	T	O
U	F	O	S	■	V	A	T	■	S	C	U	D
B	O	N	S	A	I	■	A	I	K	I	D	O
■	■	■	I	D	S	■	K	O	S	■	■	■
M	O	D	E	■	I	N	D	E	X	I	N	G
A	W	F	■	■	O	N	F	■	■	O	O	O
R	E	C	L	I	N	E	R	■	K	N	I	T
■	■	I	O	N	■	■	I	I	I	■	■	■
U	N	S	U	N	G	■	S	M	O	K	E	D
R	A	I	N	■	A	L	I	■	S	O	S	O
A	D	O	G	■	N	E	O	■	K	H	A	N
L	A	N	E	■	G	I	N	■	S	L	U	E

Yesterday's answer 6-15



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99c per minute. touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Neil Patrick Harris, 39; Ice Cube, 43; Courteney Cox, 48; Helen Hunt, 49.

Happy Birthday: Listen and observe, and you will discover an opportunity that leads to a long-lasting partnership or contract. Offering someone a favor will be your chance to show what you are capable of and what you have to offer. Align yourself with people who have something to offer, and you will reap the rewards you deserve. Your numbers are 2, 14, 24, 26, 32, 37, 46.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Remembering your past will help you make wise decisions. Don't make changes based on what others say. Follow your heart and your intuition to find the path that suits you best. Love will be enhanced and will change your lifestyle. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): You'll have plenty to discuss with friends, neighbors or relatives. Participate in community events to explore different cultures and ways of doing things. Take a course or attend a conference that will motivate you to be more creative. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): You have more than you realize. Look at your assets or the skills you possess, and you will find a way to raise your income. Proceed cautiously if someone from your past tries to talk you into something that makes you feel unsure. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Helping others will raise your profile and bring you in touch with someone who has something to offer. Don't make an impulsive decision. Consider the possibilities and decide what you want before you proceed. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Contemplate what you have to offer and start the ball rolling. Interacting with others will change the way you do things and give you a different perspective on the possibilities that lie ahead. Consider how to make your life less stressful. ✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): What others do and what is expected of you will be confusing. Don't make a move until you feel confident you are doing what's best for you. Don't judge others and you will avoid being judged. Discipline will pay off. ✪✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Learning, sharing and developing a new skill will lead to extra income. Doing something that will build your confidence or make you feel good about the way you look should be one of your goals. Travel and romance are highlighted. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): There is money to be made, but not by taking a risk or investing in someone else. Develop your own ideas, skills and services to offer for a price. Take advantage of an opportunity to explore different creative venues. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Size up your relationships. Make changes that will help you weed out the people who are weighing you down. Form alliances with those you know can make a contribution equal to your own. Love is in the stars. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Spend time with the people you love most. Make positive changes that will make your home more cost-efficient and your life less stressful. Added discipline when it comes to a physical challenge will impress others and raise your profile. ✪✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Keep life simple and avoid excess. Follow your heart when dealing with partners. Stabilize your home life by finding a way to make it more affordable. A realistic look at your current lifestyle will lead to self-improvement. Love is on the rise. ✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Don't make a hasty decision. Someone is likely to let you down. Expressing your feelings will be your only recourse. Proceed cautiously when dealing with someone from your past. Ulterior motives are likely to be behind someone's generosity. ✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are intense and intelligent. You have great recall and willpower.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

3								6
	9			3			8	
6	7						2	4
	5		2	7	6		4	
			3		9			
5	4						6	3
1	8			1			9	7

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 6/15

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

1	8	2	3	4	9	5	6	7
4	7	9	2	6	5	8	3	1
5	3	6	7	1	8	4	9	2
6	2	4	5	3	7	9	1	8
3	1	7	9	8	6	2	4	5
9	5	8	1	2	4	6	7	3
2	9	1	4	5	3	7	8	6
7	6	3	8	9	2	1	5	4
8	4	5	6	7	1	3	2	9

Difficulty Level ★★★

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

FLY A KITE DAY Solution: 10 letters

B	W	E	E	C	A	P	S	K	C	I	T	S	E	C
R	E	C	P	J	U	N	E	W	S	P	A	P	E	R
E	A	N	E	A	X	N	I	L	K	N	A	R	F	O
E	T	A	J	L	H	P	D	N	O	M	A	I	D	S
Z	H	L	U	A	E	S	U	M	M	E	R	N	E	S
E	E	A	D	N	M	B	L	I	A	T	C	G	R	T
I	R	B	G	D	A	I	R	E	N	I	E	L	U	R
S	P	E	E	D	R	W	N	A	R	Y	O	J	N	E
K	C	K	S	E	F	D	I	B	T	I	M	S	R	N
I	R	S	N	C	L	G	A	N	C	E	M	U	Ⓚ	G
T	A	K	E	O	F	F	E	G	D	A	N	D	Ⓡ	T
E	Y	I	F	R	T	A	P	E	L	N	B	O	Ⓐ	H
N	O	L	R	A	T	S	O	L	I	U	U	L	Ⓟ	I
I	N	L	E	T	L	T	I	N	Y	P	E	N	E	G
L	S	L	E	E	R	L	G	N	I	R	T	S	T	H

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Admire, Balance, Benjamin, Breeze, Cable, Celebrate, Crayons, Cross, Decorate, Diamond, Enjoy, Fabric, Fall, Fold, Frame, Franklin, Free, Giant, Glue, Group, High, Judges, June, Kite, Knots, Land, Line, Lost, Newspaper, Park, Reel, Rule, Running, Shape, Skill, Small, Space, Speed, Spring, Sticks, Strength, String, Summer, Tail, Takeoff, Tape, Tiny, Weather, Wind

Yesterday's Answer: American

THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 23 is the "Presidential Edition," featuring all the U.S. presidents and a Canadian prime minister. To order, send $6.95 each, U.S. funds only, payable to Universal Uclick, plus $3 postage for the first book and $1 postage for each additional book, to: UCLICK-DEPOT-0612, 1130 Wall, 31st, Kansas City, MO 64106 or call toll-free, 1-800-642-5480. Order online at www.wonderword.com. The 2012 48-puzzle, 10 oz. trade size is 8" x 10".

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
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• 5-Liner	$24	$39
• 3-Liner with picture	$24	$42
• 5-Liner with picture	$36	$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

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Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

GAMBLE

www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in classified section

WANTED

2 WAITER/WAITRESS

- Must be a U.S. Citizen (fluent in English)
- Must be 21 yrs. old & above
- High school graduate

Walk-in applicants only, with picture.
No phone calls.
Deadline: June 22, 2012

Country House Restaurant

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Judiciary Administrative Office
Guma' Hustisia · Iimwal Aweewe · House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165, Saipan MP 96950 · T: (670) 236-9715 · F: (670) 236-9702

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Judiciary is seeking a highly motivated individual for the position of:

DEPUTY MARSHAL

DUTIES: The successful candidate will work under the Chief Marshal in the Marshal Service Division on Saipan which involves the enforcement and execution of judicial orders and assigned law enforcement duties. The duties of this position include, but are not limited to the following:

- Performs enforcement and execution of court orders and service documents such as jury summons;
- Performs court security duties required for judicial proceedings, protection of justices, judges, court staff, clients, jurors, witnesses, and judicial facilities; assists in the operation of the court's security control monitoring systems;
- Conducts inspection and screening of all persons entering the courthouse and prohibits the entrance onto the court's premises of any items that are restricted or prohibited; provides the public with direction and information on all public services locations within the courthouse;
- Prepares written reports of service and non-service documents, incidents, and other reports as required;
- Performs prisoner handling while awaiting court hearings; escorts prisoners to courtrooms and to holding cells as directed;
- Has knowledge of and follows courtroom directives;
- Completes annually all required training including firearms; complies to all procedures relative to the proper use, maintenance, and security of government issued firearms;
- Performs other duties on the courthouse premises as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS: Candidate must have a high school diploma or equivalent, a minimum of two (2) years experience in law enforcement and/or one year college level education in criminal justice or related field of study. Candidate must provide proof of valid CNMI driver's license, current police and traffic clearances, and proof of eligibility to work in the CNMI.

COMPENSATION AND TENURE: This is an ungraded position appointed and served at the pleasure of the Chief Justice. Salary will be $16,652 annually.

INTERESTED PERSONS may obtain application forms at the OPM offices in the CNMI, at the Judiciary Administrative Office at the Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice in Susupe, or at the Superior Court offices on Tinian and Rota. Completed applications, resumes, proof of high school graduation, along with copies of police clearance and proof of eligibility to work in the CNMI should be submitted at: the Judiciary Administrative Office at the House of Justice in Susupe, Saipan, the Superior Court offices on Rota and Tinian or addressed to the Judiciary Administrative Office, P.O. Box 502165, Saipan, MP, 96950. This job announcement will remain open until filled. For additional information about the position call (670) 236-9716. This job announcement can be seen and a printable copy of the application downloaded at http://www.justice.gov.mp.

THE CNMI JUDICIARY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Judiciary Administrative Office
Guma' Hustisia · Iimwal Aweewe · House of Justice
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VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
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Office of the Clerk of Court
Superior Court, CNMI Judicial Branch
SAIPAN

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Superior Court is seeking Deputy Clerk 1, Office of the Clerk of Court on the islands of SAIPAN.

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Cain pitches perfect game for Giants

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—San Francisco's Matt Cain pitched the 22nd perfect game in major league history and first for the Giants, striking out a career-high 14 batters in the 10-0 interleague win over the Houston Astros on Wednesday.

Cain pulled off the rare feat—not allowing any batter to get on base—with help from outfielders Melky Cabrera and Gregor Blanco, who took fine running catches in the closing stages. He got Jason Castro on a grounder toward third base for the 27th and final out.

Cain (8-2) threw 86 of his pitches for strikes and faced four 3-2 counts. His 125 pitches were the most thrown in any perfect game.

It was the second perfect game of the season and the fifth no-hitter — including three in June. The Astros failed to get a hit for the fifth time in their history and first since 2008.

Cabrera, Brandon Belt and Blanco all hit two-run homers for the Giants.

Houston starter J.A. Happ (4-7) allowed eight runs in 3 1-3 innings.

Angels 2, Dodgers 1

In Los Angeles, Erick Aybar led off the ninth inning with his first home run of the season, lifting the Angels over their Los Angeles rivals.

Aybar hit a pitch from closer Kenley Jansen (4-2) into the pavilion seats beyond right-center. Alberto Callaspo also homered for the Angels.

LaTroy Hawkins (1-1) earned his first victory with the Angels by pitching a hitless eighth. Ernesto Frieri got three outs for his sixth save in six chances, retiring former Angel Bobby Abreu on a comebacker with two runners in scoring position.

Yankees 3, Braves 2

In Atlanta, Curtis Granderson hit a go-ahead two-run homer in the sixth inning as streaking New York hung on to edge Atlanta and complete its second straight three-game sweep.

New York starting pitcher Hiroki Kuroda (6-6) gave up two runs in six innings and set a season high with eight strikeouts. He stranded runners in scoring position in the second, third and fourth innings before giving up a two-run shot in the fifth. Granderson answered an inning later.

The Yankees have surged into first place in the American League East with sweeps of the Mets and Braves.

Rafael Soriano gave up a single with two outs in the ninth before completing the save by inducing a popup to second base.

The Braves had runners in scoring position in six innings and went 2 for 13 in that situation.

Atlanta starter Tim Hudson (4-3) gave up the lead before he could record an out in the sixth. He gave up three runs with no walks and eight strikeouts in six innings.

Nationals 6, Blue Jays 2

In Toronto, Stephen Strasburg (8-1) won his fifth straight start by guiding Washington past Toronto, completing a three-game sweep.

Tyler Moore, called up from the minors last week, hit the first two home runs of his career as the Nationals completed the first undefeated six-game road trip since the franchise relocated from Montreal. Moore went 3 for 4 with five RBIs.

The Blue Jays (31-32) lost for the sixth time in seven games and fell below .500 for the first time this season.

Toronto starter Kyle Drabek (4-7) was forced to leave after suffering an apparent injury. He allowed four runs in 4 1-3 innings.

Mets 9, Rays 1

In St. Petersburg, Florida, R.A. Dickey broke the New York Mets' record for consecutive scoreless innings in a victory over Tampa Bay.

Dickey (10-1), who co-leads the major leagues for wins, ran his career-best shutout streak to 32 2-3 innings before yielding an unearned run in the ninth. That topped the previous club mark of 31 2-3 scoreless innings set by Jerry Koosman in 1973.

Dickey set a career best with 12 strikeouts and didn't walk a batter. Over his past five outings, the 37-year-old knuckleballer has struck out 50 while walking only three.

He outpitched AL wins leader David Price (8-4). According to STATS LLC, this was only the second regular-season game since 1921 to feature the AL and NL wins leaders.

Orioles 7, Pirates 1

In Baltimore, Jake Arrieta tied a career high with nine strikeouts over seven innings, steering Baltimore past Pittsburgh for its fourth straight victory.

Arrieta (3-8) was dominant in ending a six-game losing streak, giving up one run. He filled in for scheduled starter Brian Matusz, who deflected a baseball onto his nose Tuesday during bunting practice.

Wilson Betemit had a season-high three hits and drove in three runs, going 3 for 3 and giving the Orioles a 5-0 lead with a homer int the sixth off Kevin Correia (2-6).

Baltimore's four-game home winning streak is a season high.

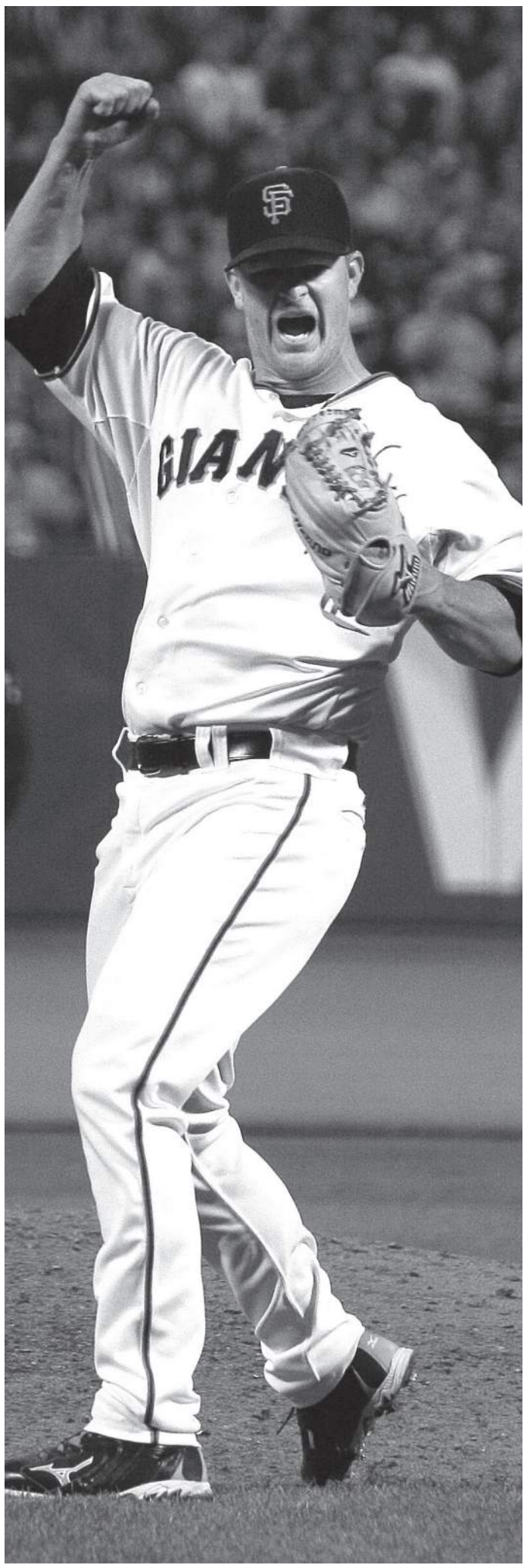
Rangers 1, Diamondbacks 0

In Arlington, Texas, Craig Gentry hit a two-out RBI single in the eighth inning for the game's only run as Texas edged Arizona.

Mike Napoli drew a leadoff walk in the eighth off rookie Wade Miley (7-3) before a sacrifice bunt by Yorvit Torrealba. After a strikeout, Gentry, the No. 9 batter hitting an impressive .340 this season, hit a hard one-hopper over the glove of the third baseman and into left field.

Mike Adams (1-2) retired the only two batters he faced after replacing starter Matt Harrison, who has pitched 16 1-3 consecutive scoreless innings. Joe Nathan worked a perfect ninth for his 13th save in 14 chances.

Texas has won seven straight against the Diamondbacks, who were shut out for only the second time this season.



AP

San Francisco Giants pitcher Matt Cain celebrates after the final out of the ninth inning of a baseball game against the Houston Astros in San Francisco, Wednesday, June 13, 2012.

Reds 5, Indians 3

In Cincinnati, Brandon Phillips had another strong game against his former team, hitting a two-run homer and driving in three runs as Cincinnati topped Cleveland.

Phillips' two-run shot in the seventh inning made it 58 straight games with at least one homer at Great American Ball Park; the longest active streak in the majors.

Phillips also had an RBI single off Derek Lowe (7-5) and three hits overall against the team that traded him at the start of the 2006 season. Phillips is a .347 career hitter against Cleveland.

Cincinnati starter Mat Latos (5-2) pitched seven innings in place of Mike Leake, one of several Reds hit hard by a stomach virus.

Michael Brantley extended his hitting streak to 20 games, matching the longest in the majors this season.

Cardinals 1, White Sox 0

In St. Louis, Lance Lynn struck out a career-high 12 to stay tied for the major league lead in wins as St. Louis ended Chicago's eight-game road winning streak.

Lynn (10-2) pitched 7 1-3 scoreless innings and joined the Mets' R.A. Dickey as the only 10-game winners in the majors.

Carlos Beltran hit his NL-best 19th home run, going long in the third inning off Jake Peavy (6-2). He had three of the four hits for the Cardinals, who scored a single run for the third straight game.

Red Sox 10, Marlins 2

In Miami, Felix Doubront pitched a career-high seven innings, guiding Boston past reeling Miami.

Doubront (7-3), coming off the worst start of his career, retired 16 in a row and took a no-hitter into the sixth inning. Doubront, who struck out nine, hadn't pitched more than 6 1-3 innings in his 15 previous career starts.

David Ortiz hit a homer and drove in three runs for the Red Sox.

The Marlins went 1-8 on their homestand and were outscored 56-17.

Miami starter Ricky Nolasco (6-5) allowed four runs in six innings.

Phillies 9, Twins 8

In Minneapolis, Jim Thome drove in four runs against his former team, including a long homer, as Philadelphia hung on for a win over Minnesota.

After three straight soft singles to start the game against P.J. Walters (2-2), Thome smacked one to right field to drive in two runs and prompt manager Ron Gardenhire to visit the mound. Walters wasn't able to get loose, the team announced, and left because of stiffness and pain in his shoulder.

John Mayberry also had four RBIs, including a three-run home run in the first inning to give Cole Hamels (9-3) a six-run lead he barely held. Jonathan Papelbon got the last four outs for his 17th save in as many attempts.

The Twins trailed 6-0 and 9-3 before a rally which Papelbon ended by striking out Joe Mauer in a perfect ninth.

Tigers 8, Cubs 4

In Chicago, Jhonny Peralta had three hits and two RBIs one night after he made two costly throwing errors, and Detroit rallied to beat Chicago.

Brennan Boesch had four hits, including a solo homer, and made a diving catch in right field as the Tigers improved to 8-1 in their last nine games against the Cubs, who had won four straight home games.

Chicago starter Matt Garza (2-5) allowed seven hits in six innings. He is 0-4 with a 5.26 ERA in his past seven starts.

Detroit starter Rick Porcello (4-4) gave up nine hits in five innings, but managed to earn his first victory since May 6.

Royals 4, Brewers 3, 11 innings

In Kansas City, Mike Moustakas walked with the bases loaded in the 11th inning, giving Kansas City a come-from-behind victory over Milwaukee.

Billy Butler singled to lead off the inning against Kameron Loe (2-2), and Eric Hosmer drew a walk before Jeff Francoeur ripped a single to left field, loading the bases for Moustakas, who walked on five pitches from Jose Veras to win it.

Tim Collins (3-0) earned the win for Kansas City, which trailed 3-1 with two outs in the ninth inning before Alcides Escobar hit a two-run triple to force extra innings.

Athletics 10, Rockies 8

In Denver, Brandon Inge hit a go-ahead, two-run double during a three-run ninth inning which lifted Oakland over Colorado.

With the A's trailing 8-7 heading into the ninth, Coco Crisp singled off closer Rafael Betancourt (1-2). Jemile Woods sacrificed Crisp to second and he stole third before scoring the tying run on Collin Cowgill's sacrifice fly.

Seth Smith, who had homered earlier, hit a two-out double. Josh Reddick, pinch-hitting for reliever Jerry Blevins (1-0), was walked intentionally, and Inge followed by lashing a double.

Todd Helton hit a grand slam and Michael Cuddyer had two homers for the Rockies, who have lost seven straight and are 0-8 in interleague games this season.

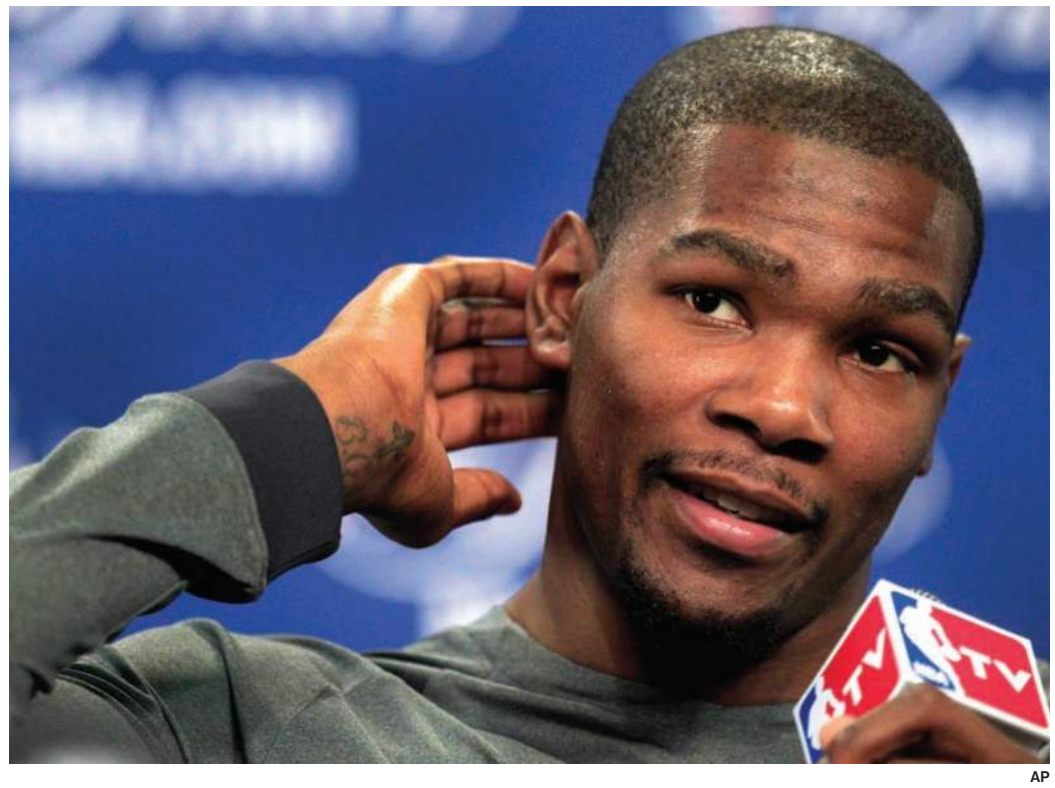
Padres 1, Mariners 0

In Seattle, Jason Marquis and three San Diego relievers combined to shut out Seattle.

Marquis (1-1) managed to repeatedly get out of trouble, having allowed a baserunner in every one of his 6-1/3 innings.

Yonder Alonso hit only the seventh homer of his career on the first pitch of the seventh inning from Mariners starter Hector Noesi (2-7).

The spotlight is there for Durant, if he wants it



AP

Oklahoma City Thunder's Kevin Durant speaks during news conference Wednesday, June 13, 2012, in Oklahoma City.

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)—Not many know much about the guy who dominated Game 1 of the NBA Finals other than he's pretty good.

Kevin Durant is a mystery even to some of the players trying to beat him.

"It's one of those things where I respect his game, but I don't know him, either. I know probably just as much as you guys know," Miami's Dwyane Wade said Wednesday.

That's just the way Durant likes it.

He doesn't seek the spotlight and it seldom comes to Oklahoma looking for him. He rarely makes much news and wouldn't read it anyway, preferring the quiet life LeBron James gave up any hope of when he went to Miami and promised all those championships at that big welcoming party two summers ago.

Durant instead committed to remaining in Oklahoma City that same month, bypassing a big announcement by revealing on Twitter he had agreed to a contract extension.

He may not be able to hide much longer.

A few more performances like he had in the opener—when he scored 17 of his 36 points in the fourth quarter of the Thunder's 105-94 victory—and Durant could take his place as the league's biggest star.

Yet he pays no more attention to praise than he does criticism—unless it comes from within his organization.

"I have faith in all those things that I do day in and day out: Coming in, working hard, believing in myself and my teammates, and believing in the system. Whatever happens after that, it happens, as long as I know that I come in and give it my all every single day," Durant said. "I can't worry about what other people say or expectations they put on me. It's just all about how I view myself and how my teammates view me, and we'll go from there."

Game 2 is Thursday night, another chance for Durant to build on what's already one of the league's strongest resumes in recent years: Three-time scoring champion. MVP of the All-Star game. MVP of the world basketball championship.

On the floor, his name belongs with James, Wade, Kobe Bryant, or any of the NBA's brightest stars. Away from the court, Durant doesn't seem interested in anything that would force his name into the discussion, with Wade comparing him to San Antonio's Tim Duncan.

"And sometimes it's where you're at. If he was in Los Angeles, Chicago, somewhere, it would be a little different," Wade said. "Being in Oklahoma kind of dims his light a little bit. Not him on the basketball court, but him off the court. There's not a lot of exciting things going on out here."

Well, except for Durant's performances.

His scoring average and shooting percentage have gone up every round, and he matched his high scoring game of this postseason on Tuesday. He did hear some criticism for being too passive and taking only four shots over the middle two quarters, but he brushes that off as easily as he does defenders.

"I don't want to sound like a jerk or anything, but I really don't care what people say outside the locker room, outside of this organization, what I need to do or what I didn't do. I really don't care," Durant said. "You know, I'm a guy that lets the game come to me but is also aggressive at the same time. I know when to take shots, when to make the right play.

"People can say this and that. I learn to just tune it out and just play my game."

James and Wade are as much celebrities as athletes, answering questions about fashion Wednesday while every inquiry to Durant was about basketball. And with more attention on the Miami duo, so is the "noise" that coach Erik Spoelstra says the team is always trying to ignore.

Last year it was focused on James after his repeated fourth-quarter failures in the Heat's loss to Dallas. He was outplayed in the final period by Durant on Wednesday but otherwise had a strong game, his 30 points his most ever in the finals.

Now the blame seems to be shifted toward Wade, who hasn't been consistent this postseason while perhaps still dealing with knee pain. He shot just 7 for 19 in Game 1, with Spoelstra denying there was anything physically wrong.

James may remind Wade he needs more from his partner Thursday.

"A lot of times I try to let him figure it out on his own, but sometimes I go to him and tell him I need one of those games from him, I need one of those performances from him, because he still has it," James said. "He knows he still has it, too, but every player needs a little kick every now and then, no matter how time tested they are."

Wade was briefly THE guy in the NBA six years ago, leading the Heat to an NBA title at 24 and looking as if he could have plenty of years on top.

Things are set up for Durant, just 23, to inherit that role now. He can put himself on a list along with Michael Jordan, Bryant and Willis Reed, who were MVPs of the All-Star game and finals in the same year, then will chase Olympic gold with the U.S. team this summer.

Game 1 had barely ended when already Durant was talking about what he could do better in Game 2, and that's as far as he'll look for now.

"I'm just taking it a day at a time," he said. "It's just a blessing to be here, not just in the finals but being in the NBA, having this opportunity to do something I love to do, and just take it slow, take it a day at a time, keep working every single day, and at the end we'll see where I'm at. But I can't think too far down the line. Just got to be ready for the next day and prepare myself right for whatever happens."

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WBO to review Pacquiao-Bradley title bout

DAVE SKRETTA
AP SPORTS WRITER

One of boxing's major sanctioning bodies will review Timothy Bradley's controversial split decision victory over Manny Pacquiao, the first step toward what promoter Bob Arum hopes will be "clarity" in the judging of the fight.

WBO President Francisco "Paco" Valcarcel said in a statement Wednesday that the WBO's championship committee will review video of the fight with five "recognized international judges" and make a recommendation. He said the WBO does not doubt the ability of the scoring judges.

Most reporters seated ringside and the vast majority of fans inside the MGM Grand arena on Saturday night thought Pacquiao had easily defended his welterweight title against Bradley.

The first surprise came when ring announcer Michael Buffer announced that there was a split decision, and the biggest surprise came in the reading of the scores. Jerry Roth had it 115-113 for Pacquiao, while judges Duane Ford and C.J. Ross had it for Bradley by the same score.

The Associated Press scored the fight 117-111 for Pacquiao.

"The public saw the fight and they're outraged, and we need clarity here," Arum told The Associated Press on Wednesday. "We need those responsible to investigate, to see what happened, how the judges could be so off.

"Was there any funny business going on? Or no funny business? Did they have a conversation with each other?" Arum asked. "We need to get clarity. The public is demanding it."

Arum's powerful promotional company, Top Rank, has staged thousands of fights over more than four decades, including some of the most significant in the history of the sport.

He said that the scoring of Saturday night's fight was among the worst he's ever seen.

"It puts boxing in a very horrible light," he said. "I'm looking for the sport to do damage control, and the only way it does damage control is if you do a full and complete investigation."

Arum submitted a formal request to the Nevada Attorney General's office on Monday asking for an inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the fight. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, the senior senator from Nevada, also has asked for an investigation.

Jennifer Lopez, a spokeswoman for the Nevada Attorney General's office, said in an email to the AP that Arum's complaint is currently under review.

"We are treating the complaint like any other complaint our office receives," Lopez said. "We do not confirm or deny if we have an ongoing criminal investigation."

The Nevada State Athletic Commission's executive director, Keith Kizer, said this week that he has no plans to review the fight, even though he acknowledged having Pacquiao ahead.

Commission chairman Skip Avansino told the Las Vegas Review-Journal that he was content with the scoring, while Ford defended his scorecard in an interview with the newspaper.

"I thought Bradley gave Pacquiao a boxing lesson," Ford said. "I thought a lot of the rounds were close. Pacquiao missed a lot of punches and I thought he was throwing wildly."

Arum believes the decision—along with the Nevada commission's reluctance to conduct its own investigation—could provide the impetus for a federal commission to provide oversight for the sport, which has long battled the perception that it is rife with corruption.

"If the commission here in Nevada will be in intransigent, and won't cooperate, we have to have a federal commission," Arum said. "We have to examine who these are on the commission, how they got there, how they operate. Something is broke."

Stats compiled by Compubox showed Pacquiao landing 253 punches to 159 for Bradley, and having a 190-108 edge in power punches. Pacquiao landed at 38.5 percent to 27.7 percent for Bradley.

The decision ended Pacquiao's 15-fight winning streak, but also sets up a potential rematch later this year. There has been talk that it could happen in November.

Perhaps by then, Arum will have the clarity he is seeking from their first fight.

"Any other sport—football, baseball—the commissioner's office would investigate," he said. "I'm not saying hang anybody, but let's get clarity here. Let's get a complete report as to what happened. They could say, `Hey, all three judges had a bad night.' That's possible, too. I'm not leaping to conclusions. I want to know as well as anybody else."

US Anti-Doping Agency charges Armstrong

AUSTIN, Texas (AP)—For Lance Armstrong, the doping allegations aren't going away. In fact, they're starting all over again.

The U.S. Anti-Doping Agency has filed formal charges against the seven-time Tour de France winner, threatening to strip him of his victories in the storied cycling race.

Armstrong, who forcefully denied the accusations, could face a lifetime ban from the sport if he is found to have used performance-enhancing drugs. The move by USADA immediately bans him from competing in triathlons, which he turned to after he retired from cycling last year.

Armstrong has been dogged by doping allegations since his first Tour victory in 1999, but had hoped his fight to be viewed as a clean champion was finally won after U.S. federal prosecutors closed a two-year criminal probe in February without bringing any charges. Armstrong has said the investigation took a heavy emotional toll and he was relieved when it ended.

But USADA officials insisted they would continue to pursue their own probe into Armstrong and his former teams and doctors, and notified him of the charges in a 15-page letter on Tuesday. Unlike federal prosecutors, USADA isn't burdened by proving a crime occurred, just that there was use of performance-enhancing drugs.

In its letter, USADA said its investigation included evidence dating back to 1996. It also included the new charge that Armstrong blood samples taken in 2009 and 2010 are "fully consistent with blood manipulation including EPO use and/or blood transfusions." Armstrong came out of his first retirement to race in the Tour de France those two years.

Armstrong, who was in France while training for a triathlon, issued a statement dismissing the latest allegations "baseless" and "motivated by spite." Even though he last won the Tour seven years ago, the 40-year-old Armstrong remains a popular—if polarizing—figure, partly because of his charity work for cancer patients.

USADA's letter also said the agency was bringing doping charges against Johan Bruyneel, manager of Armstrong's winning teams; team doctors Pedro Celaya and Luis Garcia del Moral; team trainer Pepe Marti, and consulting doctor Michele Ferrari.

The USADA letter, a copy of which was obtained by The Associated Press, accuses Armstrong of using and promoting the use of the blood booster EPO, blood transfusions, testosterone, human growth hormone and anti-inflammatory steroids. The letter doesn't cite specific examples, but says the charges are based on evidence gathered in an investigation of Armstrong's teams, including interviews with witnesses who aren't named.

Cycling's governing body, the International Cycling Union, which collected the 2009 and 2010 samples cited in the USADA letter, said it was not involved in the anti-doping group's investigation.

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SUFA softball fundraiser tourney set

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The SUFA softball Association is holding another fundraising softball tournament and it is set from June 30 to July 1 at the Capitol Hill Ballfield.

Proceeds raised from the event will go toward the group's trip to Boise, Idaho where they will compete in the 2012 CNMI Labor Day Softball tournament. This is the second time the competition will be held in Boise.

There is a $100 entrance fee per team.

The fundraiser tourney will follow a double-elimination format with one modified coed rule, which stipulates that at least two female players must be both in the lineup and on field at all times.

Prizes are up for grabs, but have not been determined yet.

SUFA is a non-profit organization that raises its own funds every year in order to represent the CNMI in the popular Labor Day event held in the mainland. The event has also been held in Las Vegas, Seattle, San Diego, and Portland in the past.

CNMI teams from Idaho, California, Washington, Hawaii, Arizona, and Nevada have also traveled annually to be a part of the congregation.

In Chamorro, "sufa" translates to "pushing or hitting" something.

This year marks the SUFA's fifth appearance in the event.

This year Labor Day falls on Sept. 3.

PAC-Chain topped 20 other squads to win last year's event over, which was held in Portland, Oregon, while unfortunately SUFA was the first team ousted, but they have beefed up their roster and vow to turn in a better performance this time around.

For more information, contact Joe Flores at 483-7848 or SUFA secretary Alfreda Camacho at 287-3818 or email teamsufa@gmail.com.

Hoe Lokahi's June races take place Saturday

The Hoe Lokahi Canoe Club's June outrigger canoe races take place this Saturday starting at 8am in the waters off Killili Beach. Race events include a men's, women's, and mixed 500-meter sprint and 1,000-meter distance series.

Participants from the Saipan Outrigger Canoe Club and the Marianas Paddlers turned out for last month's event. Mas Fatuul members are also welcome to field a crew.

Hoe Lokahi is putting on these events in preparation for the upcoming Micronesian Cup, scheduled for Oct. 27 and 28; they also hold weekly practice sessions

Hoe Lokahi is a Hawaiian term that translates into "paddle in harmony."

The group was founded in 2010 and has competed in the anticipated Micronesian Cup event for the past two years.

For more information, contact Hoe Lokahi's Leilani Nielsen at heavymana@gmail.com. ***(Walter Cepeda Sutherland)***

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

The Hoe Lokahi Ladies canoe team finished strong down the home stretch during last month's 500-meter sprint finals held in the waters off Killili Beach.

COMPLETES

From Page 32

ny Flores, Nathan Guerrero, Lamarc Iguel, Jeremy and Keoni Lizama, Harry Nakamura, Joseph Palacios, Leroy Regis, Rocco Reyes, Patrick Tenorio, and Kevin Villagomez.

Manager Joseph Flores, head coach Juan Maratita, and assistant coach Audie Maratita front the team.

SENIORS

In the finals against Tinian, the Saipan Senior All-Stars added to its 3-2 lead from the first inning with seven runs in the second off some early walks and extra throws. Frankie Camacho lifted a sacrifice fly, Jeffrey Lizama dinged an RBI, single, and two other runs came off wild pitches.

Rota's defense stopped the bleeding after the hiccup, but was stuffed at the plate for the next three frames.

They managed to make it home once in the fourth inning off an error, but Saipan responded with two runs in the top of the fifth and almost put the run-rule into effect, 12-3, but Rota escaped with the bases loaded and ignited a late four-run in the bottom frame as Saipan threw its game into neutral during the last two innings.

Rota's runs came off an error and a two-RBI base rope by Felix Ogo who found his own way home later in the frame, but in the end Saipan got it done.

Coming into the finals, Saipan defeated Tinian, 13-3, and then overcame Rota, 11-1, to advance to the championship game. Rota triumphed against Tinian, 10-7, Wednesday afternoon to punch its ticket into the finals.

BIG LEAGUE

The Saipan Big League All-Stars postured a 4-0 lead in the second inning of their championship game against Rota.

The early runs came off four hits, highlighted by a Patrick Tenorio two-RBI triple.

Saipan then gashed Rota for eight runs in the third off just four hits. Keoni Lizama bagged an RBI single, three runs scored off wild pitches, and Manny Flores busted a two-RBI base hit.

Rota finally hit the board in the bottom frame for three runs off a back-to-back doubles by Aldine Mendiola and Fermin-ton Maratita, but Saipan rolled on to a 15-3 gap in the top of the fourth off three hits. Lamarc Iguel notched an RBI single.

Rota stuffed Saipan at the plate in the next inning and managed two runs in the bottom frame off newly installed closer Brian Camacho, but the Saipan standout pulled it together in the end and kept the run-rule into effect.

Saipan's Manny Flores swung 3-for-4 with two RBIs and a run.

Saipan and Rota played twice before Wednesday's championship stake and Saipan won both games, 22-1 and 9-3.

CNMI

From Page 32

Some semis games in the girls division were played yesterday, but results were unavailable at press time.

Meanwhile, in the boys division, Rafael Jones ruled Pool B of the U18 age group with a clean 5-0 record to barge into the semifinals, along with teammates Jake Lee and Christian Miller. Lee earned Pool B's second-best record (4-1), losing to Jones, while the top-seeded Miller settled for second in Pool A with his similar 4-1 card after bowing to Guam's Christian Penafiel (5-0).

In the U15 division, Seiya Eda and Chris Cajigan topped Pool B and D with their similar 3-0 cards, while Moris Villanueva and Tommy Choi held identical 2-1 cards for runner-up honors in Pool A and C, respectively. All four CNMI netters then made it to the quarterfinals.

In the Round of 8, Cajigan was paired against Villanueva and won, 6-4, 6-3, to claim a semis ticket and will face Guam's David Okuhama. Choi also marched into the Final Four against Derek Okuhama, following a 6-2, 4-6, 6-4 upset over Eda.

In the U12, CNMI coach Jeff Race also had two semis entries in Michael Ren and Vincent Tudela.

Ren was undefeated in Pool A after three games and continued his streak after downing Palau's Ubai Kingzio in the quarterfinals, 6-1, 6-1. Tudela finished only second in Pool B with his 2-1 card, but made it to the semis after stunning Pool C top finisher and teammate Luther Lizama in the quarterfinals, 7-5, 6-1. Guam's Gabriel Tan and Mason Caldwell completed U12's Final Four.

This year's NPQ will conclude today with CNMI, Palau, FSM, and Guam battling for spots on the North Pacific Team that will compete in the 2012 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Lautoka, Fiji this August.

North Pacific Team slots will be given to the Top 2 finishers in the boys and girls U18 and Top 4 in both the boys and girls U12 and U15 age groups.

SAIPAN

From Page 32

settled with her family in Arizona and has since established a fruitful fast-pitch softball career.

Now in her third season at the high school level, Salas has annually played on up to three different teams during her tenure in the mainland.

Salas' talent was discovered early upon her arrival in the U.S. and she even earned a most valuable player award at just 14 years old.

She also received the opportunity to learn from college-level instructors since her early teen years and aspires to be like Arizona State University Sun Devils star pitcher Jennie Lynn Flynch, who helped lead Team USA to a gold medal in the 2004 Olympics.

Salas started playing Little League in Radcliff, Kentucky with a boys team back in 2002 and has resided in Arizona since 2005.

Her parents are John Joseph V. Salas and Samantha C. Salas. She is the middle child. Her older sister is Julia Margret and her younger brother is John Joseph.

Janece Salas' team came into the tournament as the second seed in the four-member A-pool after mustering a win, a loss, and a tie in pool play. They tied Chandler Force-Doran, 5-5, in the first match and then lost to Scottsdale Fury, 3-9, before routing Phoenix Stealth, 11-0, to earn the second seed in the A-group.

Notably, Fury and Maricopa Kaos Fastpitch went undefeated through pool play, however the former was upset by Force-Doran, 10-4, in the second round, while Kaos Fastpitch was ousted by Stealth, 2-0, in their first game.

After the playoff seeding was established, the Phoenix-based Strategy advanced past Buckeye Banditas (3B), 5-3, in the first round and then doubled-up Stealth (4A), 6-3, in the semifinals before turning it up a notch on the big stage for a 14-10 finals victory over Force-Doran (3A).

Other participating teams included Phoenix Arizona RBI (4B) and Phoenix's Hammer-Sanchez (2B).

Moreover, Fury came into the event as the top qualifier of the eight B-division contenders with a 4-1 record, while Strategy held the No. 2 spot with win-loss-tie card of 4-1-1.

The games were held at Sahuaro Ranch Park and Paseo Park.

SAN ROQUE

From Page 32

into the win column after recovering from a 3-18 deficit en route to beating Wushin Express last week, this time overhauled Banahaw's 20-point lead, 38-58, to notch its second straight win after a 0-2 start.

Banahaw absorbed its first loss in three games, as it played with only five players, starting in the closing minute of the third period with Joel Saplan fouling out. With one man down and no other bench players to call on, Banahaw ran out of offensive options, especially in the fourth canto when Juluis Tabamo was hounded by Art Salazar. Tabamo was held to a point in the final period were San Roque outgunned Banahaw, 31-15.

Despite its lack of manpower, Banahaw tried to hang on for dear life in the closing seconds with Stanley Tuwon connecting on a drive and drawing a foul from McClain Achas. Tuwon's basket moved Banahaw within 1, 80-81, with 23 seconds left, but he missed the game-tying bonus shot.

San Roque went on to keep the lead and stole the victory after converting two free throws, while Banahaw completed the monumental collapse as it committed three costly turnovers in its inbound plays.

Angelo Fernando paced San Roque with 33 points, the same output Tabamo contributed in Banahaw's losing cause. The Banahaw gunner waxed hot early, making 26 points at the break for a 51-36 lead for his team.

Then in the second half, which began late due to rain, Banahaw kicked off the third with a short 7-2 run for its biggest lead, 56-36. However, fatigue and foul trouble started to take their toll on Banahaw, allowing San Roque to slice the lead to 10, 57-67.

San Roque continued its uphill climb and finally stole the lead, 77-75, off Fernando's steal and fastbreak layup, 1:14 left on the clock.

Joel Javier then made a split to move Banahaw within one and after Salazar muffed a reverse layup, the former nailed a layup to put his team back in the lead, 78-77, 35 seconds left in the game.

San Roque sued for time and when the game resumed, Michael Achas attacked the basket and missed the drive. Fortunately, McClain Achas was there for the putback. Banahaw then went for the quick inbound, but McClain intercepted the pass and kicked the ball to Fernando, who was then fouled and split his charity. Two more inbound play errors from Banahaw returned possession to San Roque, which was fouled on two occasions and earned two more charities to seal the win.

Team Pogi 78, Mawati

In the opening game, Team Pogi outclassed Mawati.

Team Pogi improved to a 4-1 record and jumped to first place, ahead of DLX/Irish Spring (3-1) and Mawati, which dropped to a 2-1 card.

Jason Bahillo and Tim Sula teamed up in Team Pogi's fourth win, firing 23 and 20 points, while Brian Chan and Jeff Bahillo also had double figures, adding 11 and 10, respectively.

Jerome Reyes led Mawati with his 21 markers.

First Game

Team Pogi 78 – Ja. Bahillo 23, Sula 20, Chan 11, Je. Bahillo 10, Lansang 8, Raquero 2.

Mawati 70 – Reyes 21, Enriquez 16, Serrano 13, Contar 8, Corotan 4, Rena 2.

Scoring by quarters:18-16, 36-32, 57-49, 78-70.

Second Game

San Roque 83 – Fernando 33, Mc. Achas 12, Odicta 9, Mi. Achas 9, Salazar 8, Hidalgo 3, Claveria 2, Lagado 2, Capuli 2.

Banahaw Restaurant 80 – Tabamo 33, Towon 16, Javier 13, Pacson 6, Saplan 6, Lansang 4.

Scoring by quarters: 21-22, 36-51, 57-67, 83-80.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	37	25	.597	–
Baltimore	36	26	.581	1
Tampa Bay	35	27	.565	2
Boston	31	32	.492	6 1/2
Toronto	31	32	.492	6 1/2

Central Division

Chicago	34	28	.548	–
Cleveland	32	29	.525	1 1/2
Detroit	29	33	.468	5
Kansas City	26	34	.433	7
Minnesota	25	36	.410	8 1/2

West Division

Texas	37	26	.587	–
Los Angeles	34	30	.531	3 1/2
Oakland	28	35	.444	9
Seattle	27	37	.422	10 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Washington	38	23	.623	–
Atlanta	34	29	.540	5
New York	34	29	.540	5
Miami	32	31	.508	7
Philadelphia	30	34	.469	9 1/2

Central Division

Cincinnati	34	27	.557	–
Pittsburgh	32	29	.525	2
St. Louis	32	31	.508	3
Milwaukee	28	34	.452	6 1/2
Houston	26	36	.419	8 1/2
Chicago	21	41	.339	13 1/2

West Division

Los Angeles	40	24	.625	–
San Francisco	36	27	.571	3 1/2
Arizona	30	32	.484	9
Colorado	24	37	.393	14 1/2
San Diego	22	41	.349	17 1/2

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Crazy 8's Pinangay shines in SBA awards

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND
Crazy 8's Rey Pinangay, third from right, poses with his teammates after accepting their postseason Budweiser Cup trophies during the SBA's 2012 Winter/Summer Budweiser Open 8-Ball League awards banquet held Sunday in Charley's Cabaret at Pacific Islands Club.

Crazy 8 captain ReyPinangay came away as the most decorated player of the Saipan Billiards Association's 2012 Winter/Summer Budweiser Open 8-Ball League which had its awards banquet last Sunday in Charley's Cabaret at the Pacific Islands Club.

After his team finished fourth place among eight other Obyan Division teams during the regular season, Pinangay led the Jonny's Bar & Grill-sponsored squad to a 9-7 postseason Budweiser Cup victory over sixth-ranked Fotten Palau at Joe's Steakhouse last June 5.

Other Crazy 8 members include Don Antonio, Frankie Blas, Warlee Ellama, Greg Guerrero, and Zaldy Quebral.

In addition to winning the third runner-up and Bud Cup team trophies, Pinangay was again called back up to the stage to accept three individual awards.

He along with Team SCS' Erwin Gomez shared Run the Rack honors with three apiece. Pinangay along with Andrew Sablan and Quintin Ngirarios also won trophies for each sinking the 8-Ball on Break one time this season and when it was all said and done, he was selected as the most valuable player of the division for his 19 wins for the year.

The 19th Hole Bar's Titans won first place during the season and Saipan Computer Services' Team SCS received both the runner-up and team sportsmanship awards. The Titans consist of captain Rose Phillips with Rodel Dela Cruz, Rick Elefante, Oscar Sablan, Rick Rengiil, and Norman Tenorio.

19th Hole's Ken Phillips of Poksu also won the most inspired player award for his 24 total assists, while Poseidon Bar & Grill's Yang Ku finished as the second runner-up team.

In addition, Jonny's IT&E Voyagers clinched back-to-back regular season titles over four other Agingan Division teams this year. However, sister-team IT&E Incredibles went home with the Bud Cup trophy.

IT&E Voyagers are made up of captain Rolly Villanueva, Jao Bernardo, Luis Fajardo, R.J. Mascaranas, Marc Brian Nelvis, Boyet Sequioco, Roman Rodriguez, and Jojo Talibong.

IT&E Incredibles include captain Mark Butac, Ghelmark Cabrera, Mark Estrada, Chester and Clifford Hamoy, Ronel Sunga, and James Wabinga.

Poseidon's Home Boyz and Utopia Sports Bar's New Saipan Alumium-Hustlers finished as the first and second runner-up teams, respectively.

Chester Hamoy and Jerry Soriano both ran the rack a league-best eight times this year, while Chester Cuento, Rodriguez, and Soriano all sunk the 8-ball in the break on time.

IT&E Voyagers' Nelvis tallied 35 assists on the year for most inspired player honors and Chester Hamoy came away as the league MVP with his 23 wins on the year.

Joe's Steakhouse also received a plaque of appreciation for coming in as a new sponsor this season.

In addition to Joe's Steakhouse, the organizing SBA also thanked main sponsor Mar-Pac Budweiser, IT&E, NTT Docomo Pacific, as well as Jonny's, 19th Hole Bar, Utopia Sports Bar, Poseidon Bar & Grill, Bammy's Restaurant & Bar, Wild Bill's Bar & Grill, The Waterfront, and Saipan Computer Services for all of their support.

Saipan wins 2012 Marianas Shootout 8-Ball championship

Hamoy | Pinangay | Butac | Suzuki

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Team Saipan romped visiting Guam, 8-1, to claim its second consecutive Budweiser Marianas Shootout friendly billiards tournament held last Sunday at Jonny's Bar & Grill.

The handpicked Saipan foursome was made up of standout Saipan Billiards Association members such as Agingan Division most valuable player Chester Hamoy and Obyan Division MVP Rey Pinangay as well as veteran players Mark Butac and Ed Suzuki.

They won individual trophies and shared a modest cash prize.

Guam players include Guam Budweiser League's Raul Pascua, Victor Ryan Sr., Rick Camacho, and Robert Johnson.

Team Guam's Pascua actually won the very first singles match over Hamoy, but the group suddenly succumbed to the host team in the next eight pairings.

Hamoy's teammates all worked out two flawless matches and he himself also recovered for a pair of victories, the last being the clincher.

The event was formatted as a "race-to-eight" and included four rounds of singles matches with a final singles tiebreaker, if needed.

Needless to say, the Saipan crew made light work of the visitors after a small stumble out of the gate.

This was the second year that the neighboring islands' billiards associations came together to put on the event. Last year was formatted as a three-on-three tournament, which saw Saipan's Rolly Villanueva, Patrick Taitano, and Chester Cuento emerge as victors, 9-5.

In related news, the deadline to register for the Saipan Billiards Association's upcoming Budweiser Open 8-Ball League season is July 7. A coaches and team representatives meeting is also scheduled for July 2 at SOS Bar & Grill.

For more information, contact Pacific Amusement's Warlee Ellama at 233-4397.

Noriko bags CWGA June Ace plum

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Noriko Togawa, back row third from left, was declared CWGA's Ace of the Month for June after conclusion of the club's monthly tournament held last Saturday at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort's west course.

Noriko Togawa topped 14 other golfers en route to winning the CNMI Women's Golf Association's June Ace of the Month Tournament last Saturday at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort's west course.

Togawa started out solid with an even 40 on the front nine and finished strong on the backside with a 37 for a field low gross total of 77 that calculated into a 74 net score that held up against the competition.

Notably, new member Jeon Me Ae was just one stroke behind Togawa at the turn and finished the course with a 40 on the back nine for a raw tally of 81 that would have put her in third place behind Yuko Togawa (80) before the handicap adjustment. However, being a new member, her total was not included because her handicap is still being formulated. Yuko Togawa finished in seventh place with a 77 net count.

Masayo Miyamoto scratched a 45 on the way out and pulled into the club house with a 39 for an 84 gross total that worked into a 75 net card, good for second place.

She tied Mio Kim and Terry Guerrero's net scores, but received the nod via the handicap rule; Kim posted a 46 and a 41 for an 87 gross total, while Guerrero grossed a 90 (45/45) during her round.

Togawa joins May Ace Xiao Lin Wang as qualifiers into the season-ending two-round CWGA Ace of Aces Tournament slated for April of next year. The CWGA season starts and ends annually in April.

Togawa is the group's two-time overall gross score winner and finished second place in points behind two-time category champ Shiori Onoue last year. Yi Su Jeong won total net score honors in 2011.

Established in March 2007, CWGA is a nonprofit organization founded to promote, encourage, and introduce women to the sport of golf in the CNMI.

The CWGA utilizes a standard net score format, where a predetermined point system is tallied during the season.

First place is awarded 15 points, 14 for second, and so on down through the Top 10 finishers, and the rest receive a point for participation each month.

For more information, contact Terry Guerrero at 285-8374, Bennet Seman at 483-0126, Yuko Togawa at 287-9856, or Delores Yamagishi at 483-3195.

SSC's water polo program draws crowd

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Saipan Swim Club's water polo program has gotten off to a good start, according to SSC masters member Suzy Kindel.

In an email to *Saipan Tribune*, Kindel said the first week of the program drew 22 SSC swimmers, while last week, 13 members of Tsunami Saipan Swimming Center joined the afternoon session, too. Adult swimmers also have their separate water polo lessons being conducted by former University of Southern California water polo standout and Santa Monica Water Polo Club coach Jeff El-Hajj.

"Due to the large number of participants, coach Jeff enlisted additional assistant coaches to help him. The experienced staff now consists of Tyce Mister, Colin Thompson, Sean Frink, and Becky Skeele," Kindel said.

Mister, Thompson, and Frink competed in previous water polo events during their college years, while Skeele was a former member of Cornell University's women club team. Joining the four assistant coaches were former SSC swimmer Jennifer Pierce and University of Hawaii-Manoa standout Rezne Wong. Pierce underwent a water polo camp at the U.S. Naval Academy, while Wong used to play water polo a few years back when he was still a member of SSC and is on a short vacation here. He just came from a successful stint in the 9th Oceania Swimming Championships in New Caledonia. Like Wong, Pierce learned water polo while swimming under former SSC coaches Bill and Jean Sakovich.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Swimmers line up for the water polo drill during last week's session at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi.

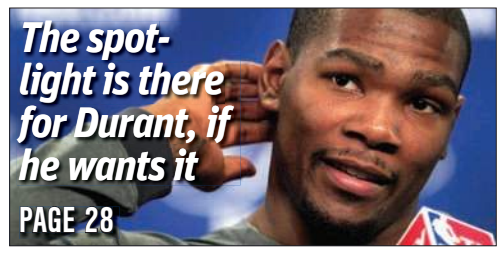
"This great group of volunteers gave personalized attention to 33 children. After warming up, the kids were divided into three groups that were then rotated through three stations where specific skills were taught and practiced. Each station was manned by one or two coaches," Kindel said.

The water polo program will continue to run this month and each session is held every Saturday at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool. The children's session starts at 3:15pm, while the adults have their turn at 4:30pm. At times, children are allowed to stay and play with the adult swimmers.

Meanwhile, SSC president Robert Torres thanked donors and volunteers who helped facilitate the program.

For more information about the program, contact Kindel at suzykindel@yahoo.com.

Saipan Tribune
Sports



Saipan completes district tourney domination

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

Saipan Little League's Senior, left, and Big League All-Stars pose for team photos after winning their respective CNMI Little League Baseball District Tournament championships last Wednesday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Saipan Little League Senior and Big League All-Stars completed the hosts' expected domination of the 2012 CNMI Little League Baseball District Tournament last Wednesday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The Saipan Seniors All-Stars blasted Rota, 12-7, while the Big Leaguers defeated Rota, 15-5, later that night.

Both teams will be traveling to Guam where they will represent the CNMI in their respective Asia-Pacific Regional tournaments, which take place from July 4 to July 11 in Hagatna's Paseo Stadium.

The newly minted CNMI Senior All-Stars include Cedric and Davin Ada, Steven Cabrera, Francisco Camacho, Khobby Kaipat, Keoni Lizama, Francisco Lieto, A.J. and Jeffrey Lizama, Davie Matagolai, Austin Petig, Henry Rabauliman, Taylor Sablan, Ray Saralu, Lancaster Secharmidal, and Jonathan Villagomez.

Manager Darron Flores, head coach Isidoru Camacho, and assistant coach Walter Macaranas lead the team.

The Saipan Big League All-Stars are made up of Brian and Carl Camacho, Ricardo and Richard Dela Cruz, MacGarette Duenas, Jacob and Man-

See COMPLETES on Page 30

CNMI jr. players unstoppable in NPQ

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI Junior Team Team continued to put on a strong showing in the 2012 North Pacific Qualifying Tournament in Guam after nine of its players swept the elimination round and 17 made it to the semifinals.

In the girls U12, Carol Lee and Isabel Heras ruled Pool A and B, respectively, after posting similar 5-0 records. The two also advanced to the semifinal round, which will be an all-CNMI affair, as Julia Ishikawa also booked a Final Four ticket after placing second in Pool B with a 4-1 card, beating teammate Amik Tsukagoshi (3-2). Mimi Sakano and Elizaveta Atalig had identical 3-1 slates after Day 3 of the competition last Wednesday and was scheduled to battle for the last semis seat yesterday at the Rick Ninete Tennis Centre in Tamuning.

In the girls U15, Mikayla Lopez and Emily Jones clinched the two semis berths in Pool A with the former earning a perfect 4-0 card and the latter gaining a 3-1 record. Negahr Rastguiy is likely to join her two CNMI teammates in the semis, as she held a 3-0 record after Day 3 and was set to face Palau's Ayana Rengiil in the last Pool B game yesterday.

In the girls U18, the Commonwealth also has a 1-2 finish in Pool A with Thea Minor nailing an immaculate 5-0 card and Melody Johnson coming in next with a 4-1 slate. Joining the two in the semis were teammate Theecel Minor (3-1) and Pool B top finisher Palau's Abigail Gbewonyo.

See CNMI on Page 30

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Isabel Heras, seen here competing in the 2012 Coconut Classic at the AMP tennis court, swept her preliminary matches in the U12 division of the 2012 North Pacific Qualifying Tournament in Guam to advance to the semifinals.

San Roque slips past Banahaw

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

San Roque eked out another come-from-behind win in the 2012 DLX/DL JOS Inter-Color Basketball League, edging Banahaw Restaurant, 83-80, in their rain-delayed match last Wednesday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

San Roque, which broke

See SAN ROQUE on Page 30

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

San Roque's Angelo Fernando pulls up for an off-balance shot against the outstretched arm of Banahaw Restaurant's Joel Javier during the second quarter of their game in the DLX/DL JOS caging last Wednesday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Saipan lass part of U18 state championship

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Saipan's Janece Mae Crisostimo Salas can now call herself a state champion after her Arizona Strategy triumphed over seven other teams in the 2012 TCS Arizona State Championship 18U B-division girls fast-pitch softball tournament that concluded last June 3 in Glendale, Arizona.

The 17-year-old junior served as the team's utility player during the season. She played mostly behind the plate at catcher in the tourney, but also played shortstop, third base, and in the outfield.

Salas left Saipan and attended school in the mainland at an early age where she ultimately

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Janece Salas and her Arizona Strategy team won the 2012 TCS Arizona State Championship 18U division girls fast-pitch softball tournament held earlier this month at Glendale's Paseo Park. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO